

2023年度東京海洋大学海洋生命科学部・海洋資源環境学部
私費外国人留学生特別入試学力検査問題・解答用紙《外国語（英語）》（1/3）

受験番号 _____

氏名 _____

Read the article below and answer the questions in the following pages.

Shopping can make us feel happy. Whether we are buying clothes at the mall (0) _____ getting the latest smartphone, shopping is something most people enjoy. It is a major part of our lives and a driving force that moves the global economy. But just how much do we shop? You may be surprised (1) _____ learn that shopping for personal consumption makes up more than 50 percent of Japan's GDP. It is often thought that Japan's financial strength is based on exports. However, personal consumption — our daily shopping — is perhaps the single most important pillar supporting Japan's economy.

Modern society produces, consumes, and disposes of a large quantity of materials. This cycle of mass-consumption provides us with convenient and comfortable lives. However, it also negatively affects the natural environment and threatens our survival. To (2) _____ awareness of this danger, the “Ecological Footprint” was created as a way of calculating each individual's impact upon the environment. For example, if everyone on Earth had the same consumption habits as the average American, the “Ecological Footprint” data tells us that we would need more than five Earths to sustain the human race.

Beyond its effect on the environment, our mass-consumer society also affects what we buy and from whom we buy it. As consumers, we generally want to buy things as cheaply as possible, but without sacrificing quality. However, we rarely think about the people who produce what we buy or their working conditions. Many of the everyday items we buy may be produced by children or other vulnerable members of society. They may be laboring in very poor working environments for very low wages. For example, when you buy a cup of coffee (3) _____ three hundred and thirty yen, only about two yen actually goes to the producer.

The Fair Trade movement aims to correct this type of economic inequality. In ordinary trade, the sellers aim to make as (4) _____ profit as possible by making their products as cheaply as possible and selling them at a high price. Fair Trade, on the other hand, emphasizes paying fair prices for raw materials and products from developing countries. It prioritizes helping the producers in developing countries become independent. Support organizations such as Fairtrade International have issued certification labels and made efforts to spread Fair Trade globally. In addition, there are now over two thousand certified “Fair Trade Towns” around the world, including six cities in Japan.

“Ethical consumption” is a term for consumer behavior that focuses on people, communities, and the environment. It is a way to improve the world (5) _____ our shopping and help us be mindful of what we buy. Examples of ethical consumption are Fair Trade, eco-friendly products, recycled products, and products that support people in disaster-hit areas. Essentially, ethical consumption means thinking about the environment and other people besides yourself when you shop. It shows us that, by making a connection between our shopping habits and global issues, we can contribute to making the world a better place.

Kazuya Oseki and Kevin M. McManus, *Living as Global Citizens*, NAN'UN-DO, 2020, 92-93. (一部改変)

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