

■ 次の英文を読んで、後の設問に答えなさい。

🕒 30min

“The rich get richer, and the poor get poorer.” Like many sayings, this one is not always true, but recently it has been<sup>(1)</sup>. Many studies in the United States have documented that the earnings gap between high-skilled and low-skilled workers has increased over the past two decades. Figures show that in 1976, college graduates earned on average 55 percent more than high school graduates; in 1994, they earned 84 percent more. The<sup>(2)</sup> economic incentive to stay in school is as great today as it has ever been.

Why has the gap in earnings between skilled and unskilled workers risen in recent years? No one knows for sure, but economists have proposed two explanations. Their first explanation is that international trade has altered the relative demand for skilled and unskilled labor. For example, imports into the United States have risen from 5 percent of total U.S. production in 1970 to 13 percent in 1995. Exports from the United States have risen from 6 percent of total U.S. production in 1970 to 11 percent in 1995. Because unskilled labor is plentiful<sup>(3)</sup> and cheap in many foreign countries, the United States tends to import goods produced with unskilled labor and export goods produced with skilled labor. Thus, when international trade expands, the domestic demand for skilled labor rises, while the domestic demand for unskilled labor falls.

The second explanation is that changes in technology have altered

the relative demand for skilled and unskilled labor. Consider, for instance, the introduction of computers. Computers raise the demand for skilled workers who can use the new machines and reduce the demand for unskilled workers whose jobs are replaced by the computers. For example, many companies now rely more on databases, and less on filing cabinets. This change raises the demand for computer programmers and reduces the demand for filing clerks.

Both explanations try to explain why the demand for skilled labor<sup>(4)</sup> has risen over time when compared with the demand for unskilled labor.

However, economists have found it difficult to measure the strength of these two explanations. It is possible, of course, that both are true. Increasing international trade and technological change may share responsibility <sup>(5)</sup> the increasing inequality we have observed in recent decades.

設問レベル1

🕒 25min | Question level 1

問1 下線部(1)をitの内容とbeenの後ろに省略されているものを明らかにして和訳しなさい。

問2 下線部(2)のようになった理由を日本語で説明しなさい。

問3 下線部(3)と最も近い意味を表す語を一つ選びなさい。

- ① scarce      ② abundant      ③ indispensable      ④ consistent

問4 下線部(4)を和訳しなさい。

問5 空所(5)に入れる適切な語を一つ選びなさい。

- ① in      ② at      ③ for      ④ toward

問6 本文の内容と一致するものにはT、一致しないものにはFと答えなさい。

- ① In 1995, imports into and exports from the US were more than double those of 1970.
- ② As international trade expands, the demand for unskilled labor decreases in the US because the US makes use of cheaper foreign unskilled labor.
- ③ American economists consider it difficult to find measures to fill the income gap between high-skilled workers and low-skilled workers.
- ④ Advances in technology enable people to acquire skills more diversified than they used to be.
- ⑤ Although the true reason for the increasing income gap isn't clear, it may be caused by increasing international trade and technological change.
- ⑥ For the last 20 years, developing countries have exported large numbers of unskilled workers to developed countries.

問7 本文中に出てくる次の単語と下線部の発音が異なるものをそれぞれ一つ選びなさい。

- (6) **earn**  
 ① guard      ② birth      ③ burden      ④ journey
- (7) **trade**  
 ① angel      ② chaos      ③ stadium      ④ angle

## 設問レベル2

5min | Question level 2

要約 空所に適する語句を選択肢から補って、要約文を完成させましょう。

- ① アメリカでは、過去20年の間に、が広がっている。
- ② その理由の一つは、アメリカはを輸入し、は輸出する傾向にあり、にもなって、技術を持つ労働力の国内需要が高まったこと。
- ③ もう一つの理由は、同じ仕事でも、科学技術の発達に伴い、ことである。
- ④ どちらの理由が有力かを決めるのは困難だと経済学者らは考えており、である可能性もある。

## 選択肢

①国際貿易の拡大 ②両方が原因 ③技術が必要とする労働力によって生産されたもの ④技術を必要としない労働力によって生産されたもの ⑤技術を持つ労働力のほうが持たない労働力よりも需要が高くなった ⑥技術を持つものと持たないものとの収入格差

## DAY 7

出題校 日本女子大学

出題数 392語

難易度 

正解 &amp; 解説 p. 112

## Warming up

□ 次の語(句)の正しい意味を選びましょう。▶重要語句リストは図p.39参照。

- (1) **beyond recognition**  
 ① 容認できないほど      ② 感謝しきれないほど  
 ③ 見違えるほど      ④ 不当に
- (2) **financial**  
 ① 最終的な      ② 財政上の      ③ 政治上の      ④ 天文学的な
- (3) **purpose**  
 ① 目的      ② 提案      ③ 主張      ④ 支持
- (4) **decline**  
 ① 無視する      ② 妨げる      ③ 派生する      ④ 下降する
- (5) **spectacular**  
 ① 高性能の      ② 近視眼的な  
 ③ スリルのある      ④ 目を見張らせるほどの
- (6) **organize**  
 ① 斡旋する      ② 組織する      ③ 統括する      ④ 生成する
- (7) **genuinely**  
 ① 天才的に      ② 概して      ③ 純粋に      ④ 遺伝的に
- (8) **attend**  
 ① 装う      ② 意図する      ③ 参加する      ④ 留置する
- (9) **notably**  
 ① 特に      ② 気高く      ③ こまごまと      ④ 警戒して
- (10) **surpass**  
 ① 看過する      ② 上回る      ③ 迂回する      ④ 合格する