

英語

(60 分)

〔 I 〕 次の英文を読んで、1～6の問いに答えなさい。

More and more of the world is working in English. Multinational companies (even those based in places such as Switzerland or Japan) are making it their corporate language. And international ^(a)bodies like the European Union and the United Nations are doing an ever-greater share of business in the world's new default language. At the office, it's English's world, and every other language is just living in it.

Is this to the advantage of the native speaker of English? Working in a foreign language is certainly hard. It is easier to argue fluently or to make a ^(b)subtle point when not trying to recall rarely used vocabulary or construct sentences correctly. Non-native speakers have not just one hand, but perhaps a bit of their brains, tied (あ) their backs. A recent column by Michael Skapinker in the *Financial Times* says that it's important for native English speakers to learn the skills of talking with non-natives successfully.

But, as Mr. Skapinker notes, there are advantages to being a non-native, too. These are subtler — but far from ^(c)trivial. Non-native speakers may not be able to show off their brilliance easily. It can be an advantage to have your cleverness highly rated, and this is the luck of verbally fluent people around the world. But it is quite often the other way round: it can also be an advantage to be thought a little less clever than you really are, giving the element of surprise in a negotiation. It can sometimes be effective to begin to make your point by saying something like “I'm not sure how things work here, but I was just thinking...”

People working in a language not their own report other [ア], too. Asking for an explanation of someone's meaning can help ^(d) buy valuable time or be a useful *distraction, says a Russian working at *The Economist*. Speaking slowly allows a non-native to choose just the right word — something most people don't do when they are excited and emotional. [3] There is a lot to be said (イ) thinking faster than you can speak, rather than the other way around.

Most interestingly, there may be a feedback loop from speech back into thought. Some studies have found that sometimes decision-making in [イ] language is actually better. Researchers at the University of Chicago gave ^(e) subjects a test with certain traps — easy-looking “right” answers that turned (ウ) to be wrong. Those taking it in a second language were more likely to avoid the trap and choose the right answer. Very smooth, quick thinking, in other words, has its disadvantages, and extra-carefulness has its own special merits. [4] One of the same researchers found that even in moral decision-making — such as whether it would be acceptable to kill someone with your own hands to save a larger number of lives — people thought in a more practical, less emotional way when tested in a foreign language. An American working in Denmark says he insisted on having salary negotiations in Danish — asking for more money in English would have been embarrassing to him. [5]

All this applies regardless of the first language. But in the modern world it is English monoglots in particular who work in their own language, joined by ^(x) non-native polyglots working in English too. Those non-native speakers can ^(y) always go (エ) and speak their languages privately before rejoining the English conversation. Jumping from language to language is a constant reminder of how others might see things differently, notes a Dutch official at the European Commission. (One study found that bilingual children were better (オ) guessing what was in other people's heads, perhaps because they were constantly monitoring who in their world spoke what language.) Indeed, those ^(f) working in foreign languages are keen to talk about these advantages and

disadvantages. Unfortunately, monoglots will never have that chance. Pity those struggling in a second language — but also spare a thought for those many monoglots who have no way of knowing what they are [ウ].

*distraction 気を散らすもの

1. 下線部 (a) ~ (f) の単語の意味に最も近いものを, それぞれ(1)~(4)より選び, その番号をマークしなさい。

(a) bodies

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| (1) cases | (2) companies |
| (3) figures | (4) organizations |

(b) subtle

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) delicate | (2) logically clear |
| (3) not very significant | (4) very critical |

(c) trivial

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) disadvantageous | (2) not obvious |
| (3) not very important | (4) out of date |

(d) buy

- | | | | |
|----------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| (1) gain | (2) multiply | (3) pay | (4) purchase |
|----------|--------------|---------|--------------|

(e) subjects

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|------------|
| (1) classes | (2) participants | (3) students | (4) topics |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|------------|

(f) monitoring

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| (1) checking | (2) displaying | (3) interpreting | (4) respecting |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|

2. 文中の (あ) ~ (お) に入れるのに最も適切な語をそれぞれ(1)~(4)から選び, その番号をマークしなさい。

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| (あ) | (1) against | (2) behind | (3) beneath | (4) upon |
| (い) | (1) around | (2) before | (3) for | (4) without |
| (う) | (1) off | (2) on | (3) out | (4) over |
| (え) | (1) away | (2) past | (3) through | (4) under |
| (お) | (1) at | (2) for | (3) to | (4) with |

3. 以下の文が入るのに最も適切な場所を、文中の空所 ～ から選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

And coming from another culture — not just another language — allows people to notice weak points and habits of thinking shared by the rest of the natives, and to steer past them in a meeting.

4. 下線部 (X) の English monoglots および下線部 (Y) の non-native polyglots は、文中ではそれぞれどのような人を意味するか、以下の(1)～(7)から最も正確に表現しているものを選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

- (1) those for whom English is the only language they can speak
- (2) those who cannot speak English
- (3) those who can speak English but not as their first language
- (4) those who can speak several languages but cannot use English
- (5) those whose second language is non-English
- (6) those who speak English as their native tongue, as well as one or more other languages
- (7) those who speak only one language and it is not English

5. 空欄 [ア] ～ [ウ] に入るのに最も適切な語を、以下の(1)～(5)から選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

[ア]

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| (1) accounts | (2) benefits | (3) issues |
| (4) problems | (5) reflections | |

[イ]

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| (1) a familiar | (2) a foreign | (3) a native |
| (4) a non-English | (5) English | |

[ウ]

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| (1) avoiding | (2) finding | (3) missing |
| (4) noticing | (5) rejecting | |

6. 本文の内容に一致しているものを次の(1)~(8)から2つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。3つ以上マークした場合は無効となるので、注意すること。

- (1) In Denmark, employees from the United States are more likely to win a salary increase than native Danish colleagues.
- (2) It can be difficult for non-native English speakers to prove their excellence when they have to do so in English.
- (3) Major international bodies, such as the European Union and the United Nations, have made English the world's official language.
- (4) Native English speakers pity those who are forced to speak English as a second language.
- (5) Non-native English speakers are more likely to ignore ethical problems than native speakers when they discuss morally charged issues in English.
- (6) Those who can speak English fluently are usually underestimated.
- (7) Those who speak English as a second language have more diverse points of view than those who don't speak English as a mother tongue.
- (8) Using English as a second language often encourages a speaker to be more careful in considering English meaning than native English speakers are.