

2025年度

総合型選抜Ⅲ 世界人材志向型

適 性 検 査

第1問 次の英文を読み、400字以内の**日本語**に要約しなさい。解答用紙(1)に記入すること。

Humans have been writing by hand for thousands of years. Since ancient times, people have used every tool imaginable to share information, do business, and keep records. But as computers took over the job and the type-written word became more common, something was lost in the process; namely, the charm and personal nature of a hand-written letter. Now, letter writing is making a comeback in the form of artificial intelligence-operated robots. These AI robots can write notes for humans in their own handwriting. David Wachs is the head and founder of Handwrytten. He said businesses use his company's robots for handwritten letters and "thank-you" notes to create a strong and personal connection with those who receive them. Many non-profit organizations also use handwritten letters to keep donations coming. Wachs added, "I think what's old is new again."

Automated letter writing is not new. Thomas Jefferson, the third U.S. President, often used a polygraph* created by British inventor John Isaac Hawkins. Jefferson considered the device the greatest invention of his time. It let him make copies of his letters to keep for his own records. Charles Morrill is a historian and professional woodworker who worked as a guide for several years at Monticello, Virginia, where Jefferson lived from 1770 until his death in 1826. Morrill said about the polygraph, "Jefferson falls in love with this, and it becomes in many ways the hobby of his presidency ... He keeps buying machines and exchanges ones that are not quite perfect for the next one that's a little bit better." Morrill remembered that a visitor once told him, "What is it about you Americans and this new thing? Other cultures aren't like this. You Americans are just so absolutely convinced that the next new thing is going to do it; the latest software, the latest computer, the latest phone." Morrill added, "I think this begins with Jefferson." The president had more than ten of the devices at one point. Using what he considered wonderful technology, Jefferson went on to write almost 20,000 letters in his lifetime.

Handwriting technology has greatly changed since Jefferson's time. Wachs says such technology now includes 3D printing and laser cutting, among others. If users need help thinking of exactly what to write in their notes, they can choose AI to help them create a more effective message. Whether via the printing press or the polygraph, a computer or a robot, one thing is clear. Humans will use whatever tool they have to express themselves through the printed word.

* polygraph ポリグラフ (複写機)

Readapted from:

Russell, J., adapt. (2024, March 29). AI-operated Robots Write Letters for Humans.

Voice of America Learning English. <https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/ai-operated-robots-write-letters-for-humans-/7545989.html>. (Originally reported by Julie Taboh for VOA News).

第2問 次の英文を読み、その要旨とあなたの意見を解答用紙(2)に**英語で**書きなさい
(語数は問わない)。

In the media, such as magazines, television, and social media, images of people with almost perfect faces are often featured, and one effect of this is the increasing popularity of cosmetic surgery. Every year millions of individuals choose to undergo procedures in the pursuit of physical beauty. According to the website Asian Plastic Surgery (2022), Japan came in fourth place globally for the most procedures performed, behind the United States, Brazil, and Germany. In Japan, eyelid surgery is by far the most common cosmetic surgery procedure, accounting for 65% of all the surgeries performed each year. Despite the appeal of an increased appearance, cosmetic surgery does have some health risks and in Japan, there is still a cultural taboo about altering or changing one's appearance.

One of the main reasons why individuals should carefully consider the decision to undergo cosmetic surgery is because of the potential health risks involved. All surgical procedures come with hazards, such as infection^{*1}, scarring^{*2}, and nerve damage^{*3} (Mayo Clinic, 2024). Moreover, there are always added risks after surgery, like blood clots^{*4} or improper healing. Before undergoing cosmetic surgery, one should be aware of these risks and carefully discuss them with their doctor.

Another reason to carefully consider before undergoing cosmetic surgery is the cultural taboo that still exists in Japanese society. Natural beauty is valued, and it was once believed that altering a facial feature inherited from one's family was not polite (Asian Plastic Surgery, 2022). However, opinions on cosmetic surgery have evolved over time. The changes are due to several factors, including the growing emphasis on self-expression, competition in the job market, and the popularity of non-invasive^{*5} procedures that are more convenient and affordable. Despite this, the taboo of cosmetic surgery should be considered before choosing to have cosmetic surgery.

The emphasis on appearance and idealized beauty is often promoted in the media. However, the decision to undergo cosmetic is not an easy one, and anyone considering undergoing any procedure to change their appearance should carefully weigh the risks of surgery and understand the societal taboos that still exist, at least under the surface, in Japan.

*¹ infection 感染

*² scarring 傷跡

*³ nerve damage 神經損傷

*⁴ blood clot 血栓

*⁵ non-invasive 非侵襲的外科手術

References

Japanese Plastic Surgery. Asian Plastic Surgery. (2022, April 14).

<https://www.asianplasticsurgery.com.au/blog/japanese-plastic-surgery>

Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research. (2024, June 21). Cosmetic surgery. Mayo Clinic. <https://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/cosmetic-surgery/about/pac-20385138>