

次の英文を読んで、問いに答えなさい。

Dear Sophie,

Lots of people have hobbies. Some people collect old coins or foreign stamps, some do needlework, others spend most of their spare time on a particular sport.

A lot of people enjoy reading. But reading tastes differ widely. Some people only read newspapers or comics, some like reading novels, while others prefer books on astronomy, wildlife, or technological discoveries.

If I happen to be interested ①() horses or precious stones, I cannot expect everyone else to share my enthusiasm. If I watch all the sports programs on TV with great pleasure, I must put up with the fact that other people find sports (a)().

Is there nothing that interests us all? Is there nothing that concerns everyone — no matter who they are or where they live in the world? Yes, dear Sophie, there are questions that certainly should interest everyone. They are precisely the questions this course is about.

What is the most important thing in life? If we ask someone living ②() the edge of starvation, the answer is food. If we ask someone dying of cold, the answer is warmth. If we put the same question to someone who feels lonely and isolated, the answer will probably be (あ) the company of other people.

But when these basic needs have been satisfied — will there still be something that everybody needs? Philosophers think so. They believe that man cannot live by bread alone. Of course everyone needs food. And everyone needs love and care. But there is something else — apart from that — which everyone needs, and that is to (い) figure out who we are and why we are here.

Being interested in why we are here is not a 'casual' interest like collecting stamps. People who ask such questions are taking part in a debate that has gone on as long as man has lived on this planet. How the universe, the earth, and life came into being is a bigger and more important question than who won the most gold medals in the last Olympics.

The best way of approaching philosophy is to ask a few philosophical questions: How was the world created? Is there any will or meaning behind what happens? Is there a life after death? How can we answer these questions?

And most important, how ought we to live? People have been asking these questions throughout the ages. (う) We know of no culture which has not concerned itself with what man is and where the world came from.

Basically there are not many philosophical questions to ask. We have already asked some of the most important ones. But history presents us ③() many different answers to each question. So it is easier to ask philosophical questions than to answer them.

Today as well each individual has to discover his own answer to these same questions. You cannot find out whether there is a God or whether there is life after death by looking in an encyclopedia. Nor does the encyclopedia tell us how we ought to live. However, reading what other people have believed can help us formulate our own view of life.

Philosophers' search for the truth resembles a detective story. Some think Andersen was the murderer, others think it was Nielsen or Jensen. The police are sometimes able to solve a real crime. But it is equally possible that they never get to the bottom of it, ^(b)() there is a solution somewhere. So even if it is difficult to answer a question, there may be one — and only one — right answer. Either there is a kind of existence after death — or there is not.

問1 空所(a)に入る適切な語を次の①～④の中から選び、その番号で答えなさい。

- ① interesting ② interested ③ boring ④ bored

問2 空所①～③に適切な前置詞を入れなさい。

問3 下線部 (あ) を訳しなさい。

問4 下線部 (い) と同じ意味を持つ英単語を1つ書きなさい。

問5 下線部 (う) を英語に直しなさい。

問6 空所(b)に入る適切な語を次の①～④の中から選び、その番号で答えなさい。

- ① because ② so ③ unless ④ although

問7 次の①～⑤の中から、本文の内容と一致するものを1つ選び、番号で答えなさい。

- ① The encyclopedia gives us one and only right answer to philosophical questions.
② To ask philosophical questions is much more difficult than to answer them.
③ What is most important in life is to satisfy our basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter.
④ There are no philosophical questions that concern us all.
⑤ Philosophers think people want to know who they are, where they came from, and how they should live.