



II. 次の英文を読み、設問 1 ~ 10 に答えよ。



In early American English the prevailing type of expression was southern British, the language of the southern half of England and at the same time the literary language of the United Kingdom, [1] at first the literary language of England and that of America had the same general character. In the eighteenth century came Scotch-Irish immigrants in large numbers, also many from the north of England. The speech of these newcomers was, of course, northern British, a ⁽²⁾ conservative form of English preserving older sounds and expressions. The new settlers naturally went to the newer parts of the country west of the old colonies. Their presence there in large numbers influenced American English in certain respects. While the younger, southern British form of English remained intact for the most part on the Atlantic seaboard and in large measure also in the south generally, the modified form of it, characterized by older, northern British features, became established everywhere in the north except along the Atlantic seaboard.



On the other hand, the new things and the new needs of the New World called forth a large number of new words and new expressions. Moreover, the abounding, freer life of the New World created a new slang. Even conservative Scotch-Irish had something new to offer—*will* in the first person of the future tense instead of literary *shall*. These differences in vocabulary and idiom will always distinguish the English-speaking peoples, but will not separate them. They have already stood a severe test. Between 1620 and 1800 important changes took place in the grammatical structure of English, both in Great Britain and America, but [4] drifting apart in this period of marked changes these two branches of English, at all important points, developed harmoniously together. This was the result of the universal tendency in colonial days among Americans [5] culture to follow in speech the usage of the mother country. The colonies had little literature of their own and were largely dependent in matters of culture upon the Old World. If it had not been for this general tendency of American culture, the language of the New World might have drifted away from that of England, for as can be seen by American popular speech, there is a very strong tendency [6] English on American soil to cling to the older forms of the language. About 1800 the structure of literary English had virtually attained its present form in both territories and was in both essentially the same. [7] since that date no syntactical changes of ⁽⁸⁾ consequence have taken place in either branch indicates a remarkable solidarity of structure. The English-speaking people are held together by their priceless common heritage—the English language in its higher forms in science and literature. Constant contact with these forces will keep the different peoples in touch with one another. The same English life pulsates everywhere, insuring in spite of the different conditions a similarity, [9] a oneness, of evolution.

1. 空所 [1] に入れるのに最もふさわしいものを a ~ e から一つ選べ。

- a. despite b. in that c. as if d. so that e. because

2. 下線部 (2) の語で最も強く発音する母音と同じ母音を持つものを a ~ e から一つ選べ。

- a. sign b. fur c. dot d. dim e. gape

3. 本文の内容と合致するものを a ~ e から一つ選べ。

- a. The English language of those who came later to America had younger features of the language.
 b. The older form of English was influenced and modified by the younger one in America.
 c. The English spoken by the people who came earlier to America preserved older features of the language.
 d. People who settled in the newer parts of America spoke an older form of English.
 e. The new form of English modified on the American soil spread in the East Coast regions of America.

