

超基礎問題---2[2009 年大学入試問題より](制限時間 30 分)

次の英文を読み、下記の設問(A)～(C)に答えなさい。

First, I'll give you some idea of what kind of dentist I have. The last time I went to him, he had to remove the old work another dentist had done to reach some decay under it.

"Boy," he said enthusiastically, as he continued working, "you've had some very good dental work done in the past. (あ)Whoever did this did a nice job."

How many professional people do you know, in any field, who compliment the work done by anyone else?

It had been at least five years since I'd been to see my dentist. I'm one of those who doesn't go until it hurts, at which point, of course, it's too late. Many years ago, I'd had a tooth removed toward the back on the left side. A bridge* had been fixed to the teeth on either side of the hole, and it was so strong and comfortable that I'd forgotten I ever lost the original tooth.

On my first trip my dentist took X-rays.

"You may have to have a treatment in the root of the tooth," he said as he looked at the pictures.

I shrank.

He got out his drill, stretched my mouth out of shape, and started to (い)clean out the bad stuff. Finally he stopped, inspected the hole he'd dug, and said, "You may be lucky. It didn't go down as far as I thought."

He put a temporary filling in the holes, and (う)sent me off with a numb mouth and a warning not to bite myself while the novocaine** was still working.

Toward the end of the second visit, (え)he was in my mouth with his drill when he said casually, "How are you going to pay for this?"

He has a simple, open way about him, and obviously this is standard practice for him. He doesn't just send you a bill when he's finished; he talks to you about it. They must have classes that address this problem in medical and dental schools now.

No matter how they (お)do it, I always feel a little uneasy when a doctor mentions money. I have such great respect for anyone in the medical profession that I think of them as being more concerned with my health than their fee.

"My company has a dental insurance plan," I said, trying to speak clearly with the vacuum tube in my mouth. "Do I pay you or do they?"

"Why don't you give me a check?" said the dentist. "Then, the insurance company will pay you."

On the third visit, I brought him a check for \$1,000, which he estimated would be about half the bill. I forgot to bring the insurance form for him to fill out.

During the periods when Ms hands or his machinery weren't in my mouth, I talked to him about dentistry and money. I don't think he's getting rich.

"The money's in things like this bridge I'm making for you," he said. "I see a lot of patients who only have their teeth cleaned. (か)There's no money in that."

On my fourth visit, I brought the insurance form. He said he'd fill it out and mail it.

The total bill was \$1,972.

Because of Christmas and the time it took the laboratory to make the new bridge, I didn't have another appointment to see him for ten days.

On about the sixth day, I came home, and much to my surprise and pleasure, found a check from the insurance company. I hadn't even paid him for everything yet, and I was getting some money back from my dental plan. The bad news was that they were only giving me \$945 of my \$1,972 bill. I must pay the remaining \$1,027.

It's difficult to put anyone's income in perspective in relation to our own. This skilled professional saw me six times and did a good, important job for me. I do have the feeling, though, that it must be easier for a doctor or a dentist to (き)charge double when he knows that someone other than the patient is going to pay half the bill.

Medical insurance has probably done more for doctors than for patients. I'm not complaining, just stating a fact.

*bridge: ブリッジ治療 **novocaine ノボカイン(局所麻酔剤)

設問

A. 本文の内容に合うように、次の英文(1～6)の空所に入れるのに最も適当なものを、それぞれ下記(a～d)の中から1つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

- (1) The writer () who praise the work done by some other professional.
 - a. doubts that there are many professional people, if any,
 - b. wants to know if there are any professional people
 - c. is asking you the number of professional people
 - d. does not know if you are aware of the number of professional people

- (2) The writer's tooth ().
 - a. had gone worse than the dentist expected
 - b. had gone as bad as the dentist expected
 - c. had gone not so bad as the dentist expected
 - d. had gone so bad that the dentist was not expected to dig any further

- (3) The dentist calculated the total amount ().
 - a. of the bill at roughly \$2,000
 - b. of the bill at roughly \$500
 - c. of the final expense on the part of the writer at roughly \$1,000
 - d. of the final expense on the part of the writer at roughly \$500

(4) The writer was surprised and pleased when he came home because ().

- a. he found that he no longer had to make further payments
- b. the amount of the bill was smaller than he had expected
- c. he thought he had his money back before he finished paying the total amount of the bill
- d. he found that the insurance company paid more than he had expected

(5) The amount that the insurance company paid was ().

- a. still unknown to the writer
- b. just as much as the writer had expected
- c. more than the writer had expected
- d. less than the writer had expected

(6) The writer thinks of the dentist as ().

- a. having done a satisfactory job by pulling out a tooth
- b. having done good treatment for him
- c. being kind enough to give a 50% discount
- d. making a fortune

B. 本文中の下線部(あ～き)の意味に最も近いものを、それぞれ下記(a、d)の中から1つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

(あ) Whoever did this did a nice job

- a. This is a good job that anyone could do
- b. This is a good job, although I do not know who did this
- c. It does not matter who did this if it is a good job
- d. I just wonder who did this good job

(い) clean out the bad stuff

- a. pull out the decayed tooth
- b. remove the decayed part of the tooth
- c. throw bad workers out of work
- d. sweep the dirty room

(う) sent me off

- a. gave me a passenger ticket
- b. paid me off
- c. arranged my departure as a punishment
- d. let me depart

(え) he was in my mouth

- a. the dentist was attending to my tooth
- b. another decay was found in my mouth
- c. the dentist left my tooth untreated
- d. the second visitor was digging in my mouth

(お) do it

- a. have classes
- b. treat tooth decay
- c. send you bills
- d. mention money

(か) There's no money In that

- a. Those patients don't have much money
- b. Their teeth are of no value
- c. Cleaning teeth isn't profitable
- d. I cannot spend much money on that

(き) charge double

- a. ask for twice as much
- b. demand half of the amount
- c. send the bill again by mistake
- d. share responsibility between two people

C. 二重下線部 Why don't you give me a check?を日本語に訳しなさい。答えは記述式解答用紙の所定欄に記入しなさい。

D. 最後の赤の下線を施した a factとは何か、説明しなさい。