



各大問の英文を読み、解答番号 ～ にあてはまるものとして最も適切な選択肢を選びなさい。

第1問 (配点 15点)

You are currently studying in the United States. You happened to pick up a brochure about job hunting, and a description about firefighters caught your interest. Now, you are reading it.

Ask a child what they want to be when they grow up, and they will likely say “a fireman.” Firefighters are much appreciated by society, and their job seems exciting. Firefighters put out fires and save people in dangerous situations, such as burning buildings and flooded areas. They get to drive unusual vehicles, like fire engines, which many people would find too difficult to drive. Sometimes, they may even need to operate jet skis or boats to save people at sea. Firefighters also need to catch dangerous animals.

To become a firefighter in the United States, you must have a high school diploma and take a written exam and then a physical ability exam. The subjects covered in the written exam include fire science and chemistry. The physical ability exam tests your physical strength, speed, and endurance. Once you’ve passed both exams, you take part in a training program that lasts 18 months. After that, you receive a certificate and wait to be assigned to a fire station, but the wait isn’t long! Firefighters are in demand because of the dangers and long hours related to the job. Putting their own lives on the line to save others, firefighters have an especially difficult job. It’s no wonder that they are considered society’s heroes.

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(成美堂, 『Live Escalate Book 2: Trekking』より)

問1 According to the article, which is true about firefighters?

- ① Demand for firefighters is not very strong.
- ② You need a college degree to become a firefighter.
- ③ Firefighters risk their own lives to save others.
- ④ Becoming a firefighter is very difficult because many people want the job.

問2 To become a firefighter, what must you do after taking a written exam?

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- ① Take a physical ability exam.
 - ② Get a high school diploma.
 - ③ Catch a wild animal.
 - ④ Learn how to operate jet skis.

問3 Which of the following best explains why firefighters are in high demand?

- ① Because many people fail the chemistry part of the exam.
- ② Because the job requires long hours and can be dangerous.
- ③ Because most people want to become firefighters.
- ④ Because firefighter training takes more than two years.

問4 What is the main point of this article?

- ① The firefighter profession is becoming obsolete.
- ② The training process to become a firefighter is easy.
- ③ Firefighters play a vital and heroic role in society.
- ④ Most children become firefighters when they grow up.

問5 According to the article, which of the following statements is correct?

- ① Firefighters are not required to work in flooded areas, as their main responsibility is to put out fires.
- ② To become a firefighter, a high level of physical fitness is required, but there is no need to take a written test.
- ③ A firefighter is not a profession that many children aspire to.
- ④ Firefighters risk their lives to save others and are respected by society.