

第2問 (配点 12)

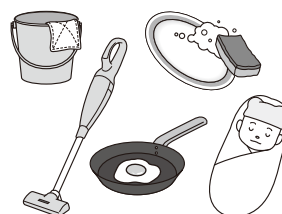
You are writing a report about the attitudes of married couples towards housework. In order to prepare, you find this online article written by a British exchange student living in Japan.

Who does what at home?

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Tokomachi, Japan



I've been doing a homestay with a Japanese family in Tokomachi City and I've noticed a few differences in the roles of the members between my two families. For example, my father back in England makes breakfast but my host father takes out the rubbish. A few weeks ago, however, my host father also started cooking for us after work. His food has become really good with help from an online cooking site. This made me wonder how housework was being shared in other Japanese families in my city.

I found an online survey of 5,000 Tokomachi residents who are married and have children: Half are husbands and the other half are wives. Of all the respondents, 80% said that wives, in general, do the majority of both the household chores and child raising. Also, 70% of the wives who were surveyed wished their husbands would do more around the house. Furthermore, 60% of the husbands said that they want more responsibility around the home.

The survey asked the couples about how they could be better partners in housework. The answer among the majority of husbands was shorter working hours for themselves. The answer most favoured by wives was a change in their husbands' awareness of household chores and childcare duties. I find it interesting that husbands and wives perceive the solution to being a better partner from different angles.

Although the current situation is not really satisfactory for many respondents in the survey, I think it's still encouraging that many couples want to improve how the housework and childcare tasks are shared. The future looks promising.

問 1 Which option best describes Stephen's opinion?

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- ① Stephen's father makes breakfast every day.
- ② Stephen's father should learn cooking online.
- ③ Stephen's host father has his own online cooking site.
- ④ Stephen's host father's cooking has got tasty.

問 2 According to the survey data, which of the following is true?

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- ① Less than half of the survey participants have children.
- ② More than half of the husbands surveyed do most of the housework.
- ③ More than half of the wives want their husbands to do more housework.
- ④ More wives than husbands participated in the survey.

問 3 Which of the following is true about the results of the survey? 6

- ① Husbands and wives have similar preferences for household tasks.
- ② Husbands want to do household chores more than child raising.
- ③ Many husbands think they need to be at their workplace less.
- ④ Wives think their husbands' awareness of household duties has changed.

問 4 Which of the following best describes Stephen's attitude towards the sharing of housework in Japanese families? 7

- ① Completely satisfied
- ② Definitely disappointed
- ③ Moderately hopeful
- ④ Mostly negative