

ベーシックセンター

英 語

表・グラフの読み取り(2)

次の文章とグラフを読み、下の問いに対する答えとして ~ に入れるのに最も適当なものを、それぞれ下の①~④のうちから一つずつ選べ。

Education does not end when you graduate from school or university. Rather, learning can be a joyful and meaningful activity throughout your life. It can also be vital to your professional development in our knowledge-based society. For these reasons, the government promotes lifelong learning for the general public by supporting a variety of programs and providing the necessary facilities.

In 2005, the Japanese government reported the changing numbers of national and local public facilities supporting lifelong learning activities for the period 1996 to 2005. The following table highlights the changes from 2002 to 2005. The five types of facilities in the table reflect the often forgotten point that lifelong learning is related to both mind and body.

Public Facilities for Lifelong Learning

Year \ Type		Community Center	Library	Museum	Sports Center	Culture Center
(a)	1996	18,545	2,369	985	41,997	1,549
(b)	1999	19,063	2,592	1,045	46,554	1,261
(c)	2002	18,819	2,742	1,120	47,321	1,832
(d)	2005	18,182	2,979	1,196	48,055	1,885
(e)	Change (2002-2005)	-637	237	76	734	53
(f)	Change [%] (2002-2005)	-3.4	8.6	6.8	1.6	2.9

Source: *Report on Two Surveys of Social Education* (2005)

The figures in rows (a)–(d) represent the actual numbers of such facilities in Japan for the year. The second row from the bottom, row (e), shows the differences between 2002 and 2005 (in actual numbers). The bottom row (f) expresses these changes in percentage terms. A minus sign (–) before a number means a decrease. It is clear from these figures that changes, sometimes

dramatic, took place.

The difference is expressed both in actual numbers and percentages because an actual number alone can sometimes be misleading. For example, a small increase in the actual number of represents the second largest increase in percentage.

It is expected that the Japanese government will continue to encourage its citizens to participate in lifelong learning opportunities. Accordingly, Japanese people of all ages should make full use of them in their lifelong quest for mental and physical well-being.

問1 What is the main point of this passage?

- ① Education is more important for mental activities than physical activities.
- ② It is important for the government to support lifelong learning.
- ③ Providing lifelong learning opportunities is often neglected in Japan.
- ④ The programs at local public facilities should be given a priority.

問2 Which of the following is the most appropriate for ?

- ① culture centers
- ② libraries
- ③ museums
- ④ sports centers

問3 What can be said about the numbers of lifelong learning facilities based on the data provided?

- ① During the years 1996 to 2005, the number of sports centers was larger than that of all the other types of facilities combined.
- ② Public museums and libraries in Japan steadily decreased in number from 1996 to 2005.
- ③ The number of community centers declined before eventually increasing during the years 1996 to 2005.
- ④ The number of culture centers experienced the largest increase compared to all other types of facilities from 2002 to 2005.