

- 1 次の文章を読んで、問1から問3に答えなさい。

I Paid My Child \$100 to Read a Book

By Mireille Silcoff, September 2, 2024, The New York Times

- I. This summer, I paid my 12-year-old daughter \$100 to read a book. As far as mom maneuvers go, it was definitely last ditch and the size of the payout was certainly excessive. I can't say I am proud — but I am extremely satisfied. Because the plan worked. It worked so well, I'd suggest other parents of reluctant readers open their wallets and bribe their kids to read, too.
- II. My daughter is a whip-smart kid, definitely smarter than I was at 12. But until I resorted to ①**bribery**, she'd never read an entire chapter book for pleasure. She'd read books for school, but getting her to do that was like pulling teeth, and on her own she'd read a few graphic novels and listened to the audiobooks of the "Harry Potter" series. None of those activities became a gateway to any habit of what I might call classic deep reading — with two eyes in front of paper, and nothing else going on. When I faced ②**this truth** a few months ago, it felt like a parenting failure. Even though we'd read many storybooks when she was younger and we live in a house stuffed with books, I'd not managed to instill one of life's fundamental pleasures in my kid.
- III. Just before the pandemic, a depressing federal survey revealed how much reading for pleasure had dropped among children. Almost 30 percent of 13-year-olds said they "never or hardly ever" read for fun, a substantial increase from the 8 percent who said the same roughly 35 years earlier. Given that screen time among children also increased significantly during the pandemic, it's fair to conclude that leisure reading is an increasingly endangered pursuit among children.
- IV. Certainly, my daughter's having landed a smartphone last year — a secondhand iPhone with a zillion parental controls and time limits baked in — is part of the problem. Before the phone, I had a child who was like a gregarious Tigger, squealing with delight at something as simple as a new dessert cooling in the fridge. Post-phone, I had ③**a monosyllabic blanket slug** who wanted only to stay in her room with the blinds down, door closed, under a duvet, palming that little rectangle as if unhanding it would make her social life disappear. If it wasn't her friends or it wasn't her phone, it was only one thing: "boring."
- V. Have you ever tried cheerfully to tell a nearly-13-year-old enduring ④**a couple of parentally imposed phone blackout hours** to pull out the old watercolors set? Or maybe try origami? Unless you want your hair to instantly fall out from teenage eyeballs laser-hating you through tiny slits, I'd suggest don't.

- VI. But I held a candle for reading. Because I could see that what my daughter was looking for, like so many her age, was ^⑤escape. To me, that felt developmentally appropriate. The problem was that the easiest way for her to find escape was to plunge into the addictive chaos of her smartphone.
- VII. So I campaigned. I told her she needed to read because novels are the best way to learn about how people's insides work. She said she could learn more from watching the people she followed on social media, who were all about spilling their insides. I said books offered storytelling. She said, "Netflix." I said books taught history. She said, "The internet." I said reading would help her understand herself and she said, "Um, no thank you. I'll just live." I promised, extravagantly, that I'd buy her all the books she wanted and construct bookshelves in her room, so that she could see the spines of all the books she loved from her bed. She said, "Mama, welcome to ^⑥your dream."
- VIII. I could not win our debates, I realized, because few of my daughters' arguments against reading seemed wrong to me. Yes, reading is a way to broaden your universe and discover new worlds — but so is the entire internet. So these discussions, which annoyed both of us, would inevitably whittle down to me wheedling about cognition and attention and how reading is "good for you."
- IX. That's not why I wanted my daughter to pick up a book. It wasn't about optimizing her brain function but about being privy to a certain subtle magic. You know when an author sums up a feeling you didn't even know you've had, and a hundred lightbulbs go off on the top of your head in a kind of epiphany? I wanted her to have a chance at feeling ^⑦that. As Neil Postman wrote in 1982 in "The Disappearance of Childhood," a screen-based medium like TV or video can't create this kind of relationship because, by its nature, the medium must fill in all the blanks for you. Books leave space for blanks — and for the internal invention they can inspire.
- X. So I decided to cut through all the reasoning with a cold, hard practicality: cash. I told my 12-year-old I would pay her \$100 to read a novel. She said, "What? Really?" Then, of course, she said yes. I canvassed friends with teenagers about what book would work to ignite her reading desire. The book suggested most often by people who know my daughter was Jenny Han's "The Summer I Turned Pretty," which had been turned into a popular Amazon Prime series that my daughter had watched and loved.
- XI. I brokered the deal: \$100 if she finished the book within a month. We then embarked on a beach holiday to a Greek island — an extended event involving bathing-suit-clad middle-aged bodies so mortifying to a 12-year-old that it was

better ⑧not to look up. Perfect! The holiday was eight days long, and before the seventh day was done, my daughter had finished the book. When we got back home, she asked for the sequel, then finished that one in about two weeks — at no extra charge.

- XII. Will ⑨this lead to her reading “Little Women”? To tearing through “Catcher in the Rye”? Will it result in a long reading life full of teetering night-stand stacks of books that she will come to see as friends, teachers, cheerleaders and balm for whatever her troubles of the day may be? I don’t know. What I do know is that my daughter now has \$100 worth of new Sephora items that I’d spent the past year refusing to purchase. I also know that together, we finally opened a new portal for her to the printed page: a quiet personal place that I imagine — I hope — will serve her for a lifetime. That feels like ⑩the best money I ever spent.

問 1 下線部①～⑩の内容を最もよく表しているものを、それぞれ a～c の中から一つ選んで記号で答えなさい。(2×10=20)

(1) ①bribery

- a. promising to read books to my daughter
- b. offering financial incentives to get my daughter to read a book
- c. praising my daughter's intelligence

(2) ②this truth

- a. the fact that my daughter doesn't read books
- b. the idea that graphic novels and audio books are harmful habits
- c. the difficulty of staying motivated to read

(3) ③a monosyllabic blanket slug

- a. an overweight, messy, and unmotivated daughter
- b. a kid who sits around with a phone and doesn't talk much
- c. a lazy child with poor study habits and an undeveloped vocabulary

(4) ④a couple of parentally imposed phone blackout hours

- a. criticism from both parents about excessive use of the phone
- b. the electricity being turned off every time the mother was not present
- c. a temporary ban on phone use

(5) ⑤escape

- a. to live independently from her mother
- b. to forget about daily pressures for a while
- c. to be alone

(6) ⑥*your* dream

- a. the hope that your daughter will become an avid reader
- b. the nightmare of being surrounded by books that you feel compelled to read
- c. the projection of your desires on another who does not share them

(7) ⑦that

- a. improved brain power
- b. the joy of realization or discovery
- c. confidence in her beliefs

(8) ⑧not to look up

- a. to read
- b. to get in shape
- c. to avoid making her mother angry

(9) ⑨this

- a. our relaxing holiday
- b. reading the sequel to Jenny Han's "The Summer I Turned Pretty"
- c. the successful attempt to get my daughter to read

(10) ⑩the best money I ever spent

- a. an investment that was worth making
- b. the price of a great education
- c. my most costly endeavour

問 1 の解答欄

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

問2 上の文章の各節(Ⅱ～Ⅷ)の要旨を、三行以内で述べなさい。(要旨は訳ではありません。例として、以下に示すⅠの要旨を参考にする事。)(4×11=44)

Ⅰ. (例) 今年の夏、不本意で決して母親として自慢できることではないが、本が好きではない12歳の娘に100ドルと引き換えに読書させることに成功した。このようなお子さんを持つ親御さんにはこの方法をお勧めしたい。

Ⅱ. _____

Ⅲ. _____

Ⅳ. _____

Ⅴ. _____

Ⅵ. _____

Ⅶ. _____

Ⅷ. _____

IX. _____

X. _____

XI. _____

XII. _____

問3 本文の内容と照らし合わせて、本文の内容と一致しているものに○、内容と一致していないものに×を解答欄に記入しなさい。(2×10=20)

1. When the author noticed her daughter wasn't reading books, it seemed to her the natural solution was to offer monetary rewards.
2. Although her daughter didn't read chapter books, she did enjoy reading books that were assigned at school.
3. A federal survey suggests that most 13-year-olds spend only about 30 percent of their time reading for fun.
4. Before the author's daughter got her own phone, she used to interact eagerly and vocally with her mother about all manner of things.
5. According to the author, school-age children should not spend all their time doing structured activities like homework and organized clubs.
6. The author believes that reading improves cognition, attention, and overall brain function.
7. According to Neil Postman, TV and video have a disadvantage compared to reading because they leave out important aspects and provide less detail.
8. The author's friends recommended her daughter read a book that had been adapted as a TV series.
9. The article makes it clear that the author's daughter did not enjoy the holiday in Greece.
10. The author's daughter used the money she received to buy more books.

問3の解答欄

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2 次の各問において、()の中に入る最も適当な語・語句を、a～dから一つ選んで記号で答えなさい。(2×10=20)

(1) I have seen businesses moving out of the country () avoid paying taxes.

- a. in view of b. so as to c. in case of d. because of

(2) If you don't know where it is, try () an atlas.

- a. demanding b. finding c. asking d. consulting

(3) Details of the new grant were () in the last edition of the college magazine.

- a. offered b. predicted c. written d. proven

(4) So-called 'sleep learning' has failed to () any beneficial effects to the learning process.

- a. give b. produce c. require d. achieve

(5) Cars produce a great deal of pollution. Bicycles, (), are totally environmentally friendly.

- a. although b. on the other hand c. nevertheless d. while

(6) Most people regarded his refusal to answer the question as a(n) () of his guilt.

- a. admission b. profession c. proposal d. disposal

(7) The new model is () electric windows, a sun-roof, and a catalytic converter as standard.

- a. admitted to b. fitted with c. come with d. provided to

(8) Our office () renovated, so we handle most of our business online at the moment.

- a. is getting b. has been c. had been d. is being

(9) The school ran () financial trouble when 90 % of the staff went on strike.

- a. into b. on c. for d. up

(10) If you can tell the company what you want they can put together a () computer system for you.

- a. private b. customized c. possessive d. cultivated

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10