

試験後に回収しますので受験番号、氏名を記載してください。

受験 番号		氏名	
----------	--	----	--

令和 8 年度（2026 年度） 順天堂大学国際教養学部
一般選抜（中期）

筆記試験（英語）

次の文章を読んで下記の質問に答えなさい。

Access to safe drinking water remains a serious challenge worldwide. In rural areas and regions with underdeveloped infrastructure, the demanding task of getting enough water for household use often falls unfairly on women and girls.

In many African rural communities, women are responsible for collecting water far more often than men. This daily task can take several hours. A clear illustration comes from Ethiopia, where a 13-year-old girl reportedly spends approximately eight hours daily carrying water. As a result, she cannot attend school or spend time with her family and friends. She is unable to have both educational opportunities and a normal childhood. Such cases represent a broader issue that affects countless girls across many developing countries. This situation hinders their potential and future prospects.

More than just a domestic chore, water collection is a critical factor that actively contributes to economic and social inequality. Girls who miss out on education due to their household duties are less likely to gain stable employment in the future. This makes it difficult for them to break free from the cycle of poverty. This cycle often continues across generations, especially in communities with limited alternatives or support systems.

In some regions, the problem is not about who goes to get the water, but rather the scarcity of it. While a person generally needs between 20 and 50 liters of water per day for a healthy life, some individuals must survive on less than 5 liters daily in areas facing severe droughts. In such difficult environments, hygiene* becomes a serious concern. This dramatically increases the risk of disease and compromises public health.

These issues are not limited to Africa. In Bolivia, rapid population growth near urban areas has overwhelmed existing water supply systems. Some households only have access to water once a week. This forces women to wait for hours in long lines to collect it from water trucks. Similarly, in Cambodia, collecting water from wells or rivers is a daily routine. During the dry season, the situation worsens. Girls are sometimes forced to leave school in the middle of the day to walk long distances to get water. They often carry heavy containers that cause physical strain.

In South Asian villages, women frequently walk for hours on dangerous mountain paths to access water. They face risks such as injury from falling or attacks from wild animals. Even in urban slums, where infrastructure may appear more developed, access to safe water often requires payment. This leaves low-income families with no choice but to rely on unsafe sources. This unfortunate

situation only worsens existing inequalities and introduces further health risks for the most vulnerable** populations.

Meanwhile, global demand for water continues to rise due to urbanization, population growth, and climate change. If current patterns of water use and distribution remain unchanged, the possibility of conflicts over precious water resources may arise in the near future. Such conflicts could potentially weaken communities and affect international relations.

Clearly, the global water crisis is far more than just a matter of infrastructure. It is linked to fundamental aspects of education, economic inequality, gender equality, public health, and community stability. Addressing this complex problem requires more than technical solutions or isolated infrastructure development. It demands a comprehensive and inclusive approach that considers all these interconnected factors.

To create a more sustainable and equitable*** future, societies must rethink how water is distributed and who will be responsible for getting it. This requires implementing various strategies, including educational programs, infrastructure improvements, and policy reforms. Schools and community centers can teach responsible water use and the health risks of contaminated water. Governments and international organizations must work together to develop sustainable water management systems. By combining education, technology, and policy changes, we can build a future where clean water is accessible to all people, regardless of their location or economic status.

*hygiene: 衛生

**vulnerable: もろい

***equitable: 公平な

【設問】

1. 本文の内容を 400 字程度の日本語で要約しなさい。
2. この文章は、安全な水へのアクセスが人々の生活に与える影響について述べています。本文に述べられている「水の問題が女性に及ぼす影響」を要約しなさい。また、あなた自身が経験した、あるいは見聞きしたことのあつる「水に関わる問題や取り組み」の例を書きなさい。合計で 150 語程度の英語で書くこと。最後に使用した語数を (151 words) のように記入すること。ただし、50 語に満たない場合は採点の対象とならないので注意すること。

以上