問題 2 以下の英文を読んで，次の問いに答えなさい。（＊の付いた語句には語注がある。）

According to Japan's family registry* system, married couples must have the same family name. Although the family registry system is also used in other countries like Taiwan, very few countries use this system nowadays. The main reason why Japan keeps this system is that, because a family registry identifies couples and their children as one unit, children's welfare and family ties are believed to be protected. At the same time, it makes it more difficult for couples to separate or divorce because everyone in a family registry must have the same family name. Data from the Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office* indicates that in 2023, around 95% of women adopted their husband's last name after marriage. ア

This "same family name" law came into effect in 1898. One hundred years later, a proposal was made to allow women and men to choose the name of their choice, even to use separate names after marriage. In December 2015, however, this proposal was rejected by the Supreme Court. Moreover, the current family name law is **inconsistent**. (A) In international marriages, for example, Japanese citizens can keep their own family name or take their foreign **spouse**'s (B) family name after a formal procedure. Japanese couples, however, do not have this right. イ

Some argue that changing the current marriage laws would damage the traditional family structure. The argument about protecting children's welfare and family bonds is perhaps the most common. Also, if a couple has two different family (**their w** ? This can be a very difficult choice for children and parents to make.

However, there are many disadvantages with this law, especially for married working women. For them, changing their family name can create many problems with coworkers, clients and business partners. What's more important

is that about 95% of women change their family names when they marry, which conflicts with Japan's laws prohibiting any form of (あ), including gender inequality. Of course, when someone is forced to change their family name, they are also forced to lose some of their identity.

A survey conducted by NHK in 2015 showed that 46% agreed with allowing both men and women to choose separate names if they want to, while 50% were against the idea. Luckily, more Japanese people are beginning to want change. In 2024, the proportion of people supporting the idea of separate names for married couples reached approximately 60%, exceeding the number of those who oppose it.

Support was particularly strong among working people in their 30s and 40s, urban residents, and younger working women. Notably, there was a significant increase in support among women in the workforce and those focused on career development. [ウ] On the other hand, opposition fell to about 35%, down five percentage points from 40% in 2023. Japanese people are gradually becoming more open to a new system.

In the end, personal freedom is most important. Even if changes to the family registry law are difficult to make, a person's choice matters most. Because a person's name expresses who they are, the government cannot force people, men or women, to change their name. [エ]

(出典：*How Much Do You Agree?* 2020 一部改変)

語　注

family registry：戸籍

Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office：内閣府男女共同参画局

1. Choose the most appropriate place in the passage [ア] ~ [エ] to insert the following sentence.

   This may seem common sense to most people, but this actually goes against gender equality.

2. Choose the most appropriate word or phrase from options ア～エ which has the closest meaning to (A) and (B) in the passage.

(A) **inconsistent**

ア discriminating based on gender, age, and occupation
イ excluding things that are different
ウ having a clear basis for it
エ not staying the same throughout

(B) **spouse**

ア couple
イ boyfriend or girlfriend
ウ husband or wife
エ son or daughter

3. Rearrange the underlined words (C) **(their, name, should, which, children, choose)** in the appropriate order. Write the **second** and **fifth** words in the answer box.

4. Choose the most appropriate word from options ア～エ to fill in (あ).

ア complaint
イ discrimination
ウ diversity
エ inclusiveness

5. Based on paragraphs 5 and 6 in the passage, choose the most appropriate word from options ア～シ to fill in (　1　) to (　4　).

In 2015, (　1　) than 50% of those surveyed were in favor of keeping their own family names after marriage, while 50% (　2　) opposition. In 2024, a (　3　) of respondents supported the change, rising to well over 50%, and the percentage of those objecting to it (　4　) to 35%.

ア	against	イ	agreed	ウ	declined	エ	disapproved
オ	expressed	カ	fewer	キ	majority	ク	minority
ケ	more	コ	opposed	サ	rose	シ	supported

6. Choose the **two** true statements from options ア～オ based on the passage.

ア In Japan, no proposal has ever been submitted to allow married couples to freely choose their family names, including the option of having different names.

イ The law requiring married couples to share the same family name took effect in the late 18th century.

ウ The legal requirement for a shared family name applies to marriages between two Japanese nationals, but does not directly apply to international marriages.

エ Today, the family registry system is widely used around the world and adopted by many other countries.

オ Many working people in cities, especially women with careers, showed support for separate family names for married couples.

7. Choose the best title for the passage.

ア Signs of Change in Japan: Separate Family Names for Married Couples

イ Japan's Future: Strengthening Family Bonds and Protecting Children

ウ The History and Background of Japan's Family Registry System

エ Reasons for Maintaining the Current Law on Shared Family Names in Marriage

8. Why did the author write this passage?

ア To argue for the need for legal reform in response to the increasing number of international marriages in Japan

イ To highlight the issues in Japan's same family name system and call for the option of separate names and individual freedom

ウ To present both sides of the debate on the issue of separate family names for Japanese married couples without bias

エ To discourage support for separate family names for Japanese married couples using statistical trends

問題 3 以下の英文を読んで，次の問いに答えなさい。（＊の付いた語句には語注がある。）

Zach: We're Zach and Annie. A Scotsman and an American who fell in love, lived in the States for 15 years, and built a life together. Just recently we **took a huge leap of faith** (A) leaving everything behind to follow our dream of moving to Scotland.

Annie: So we have officially lived in the UK now for six months and we thought it was about (1) to revisit our feelings, and let you know what our thoughts are about living here.

Zach: To sum, it was worth the risk. We love it! Overall it's great. But we do have some points we want to talk about.... Number one: The main reason we didn't move sooner is because visiting a country is not the same as living there.

Annie: So much different, and you have to know that you tend to romanticize* a country that you're just going on holiday to. Living there means you have to face reality and do all those daily chores you have back in your home country — like doing the laundry or the washing, grocery shopping, getting the kids to school. All of those things add up, and take away a little bit of the (2)....

Zach: The next one is **a biggie** (B). It's not illustrated today at all, but it is the weather.

Annie: Yeah. So, because you hear all the time how in Scotland, it's always raining, always wet and miserable, we bought good waterproof clothes. We really prepared ourselves for the worst and appreciate those days where it's cloudless and beautiful — like today.

Zach: In California every day looked like this but it was warmer. Sometimes too hot, which sounds ridiculous coming from someone from Scotland. But you did take good weather for granted. Here you look out of the window: blue skies, no rain. Perfect! It's going to be a great day.

Annie: And we're getting outside immediately. So the point is, we've got the gear. We don't take the weather for granted anymore, and we get outside regardless of the weather.... The other thing is that there is no bad weather, just **bad attire**(あ).... Nothing holds us back anymore if it's bad weather, we're outside. If it's good weather, we're outside. And having Finigan, the dog, has made it even better because we truly have an excuse to get outside, no matter what.

Zach: If Finigan doesn't get walked, he gets **irritated**(C). So, we've got to keep him exercised.

Annie: This one surprised me. In California we definitely felt the pull to keep up with the Joneses*. We had a three-bedroom, two-bathroom house, and everyone was always like, oh, you're going to outgrow that house. It's too small, and we felt that too. But to move to a four-bedroom house costs so much more money, and I don't know if that's **achievable**(D)....

Zach: Over here, we have truly learned to be more content with our lives.... In America, people like to use vehicles or houses as a status symbol, but that seems to be less so over here.

Annie: People aren't into each other's business over here. People just don't care..., and I'm glad that we don't have this urge for a bigger house...

(出典：*Honest Thoughts After 6 Months in the UK, American in Scotland* 一部改変)

3. Choose the most appropriate phrase or sentence from options ア～エ which best answers the question.

(1) Why did Zach and Annie wait before moving to Scotland?

ア Leaving everything behind and moving was only a dream.
イ Living somewhere new is different from visiting.
ウ They feared the weather in Scotland.
エ They weren't ready to leave their family.

(2) What does Annie say about the weather in Scotland?

ア Prepare yourselves for beautiful blue skies.
イ It is always freezing, windy, and dark.
ウ The bad weather stops them from walking the dog.
エ The weather doesn't influence their tendency to go outside.

(3) What is the weather probably like on the day of this conversation?

ア Cold and miserable　　イ Hot like California
ウ Sunny and clear　　エ Wet and raining

(4) What does Annie mean by **bad attire**? (あ)

ア Clothes not suitable for a particular kind of weather
イ Clothing suitable for freezing cold winters
ウ Not having enough waterproofs to wear
エ The wrong time of the year

(5) How does having a dog affect their lifestyle in Scotland?

ア It makes them stay inside on rainy days.
イ They feel too busy to go outside and exercise the dog.
ウ They need to walk the dog more on sunny days.
エ Whatever the weather, they have a reason to go outside.

(6) What does Zach say about the weather in California?

ア It was easy to assume the weather would always be good.
イ It was often cold and windy like Scotland.
ウ The skies weren't as beautiful as in Scotland.
エ The weather was not hot enough for a Scotsman.

(7) What does Zach say about people in America compared to Scotland?

ア Americans are less focused on their own families.
イ Americans are more concerned about other people's wealth.
ウ American people are interested in Scottish people's lives.
エ People in both countries care about each other's business.

(8) What benefit does Annie see in living where people don't focus on others' lives?

ア She doesn't feel the pressure to buy a larger home.
イ She feels less pressure to impress others with her vehicle.
ウ She found it easier to move to a three-bedroomed house.
エ She learned to be more content with social events.