

令和 7 年度入学試験問題

地域経営学部

編入学選抜、社会人選抜

小論文

(注意事項)

1. この問題冊子は試験開始の合図があるまで開いてはならない。
2. 問題は全部で 4 ページある。落丁・乱丁、印刷不鮮明の箇所などがあつた場合は申し出ること。
3. 別に解答用紙が 2 枚および下書き用紙が 2 枚ある。
4. 解答はすべて解答用紙の指定された箇所に横書きで記入すること。
5. 受験番号は解答用紙の指定された箇所に必ず記入すること。
6. 解答時間は 90 分である。
7. 問題冊子及び下書き用紙は持ち帰ること。

問題 1 次の英文の要約を 200 字以内の日本語で書きなさい。

TOKYO -- Scorching summer heat has already arrived across Japan, with the mercury soaring to 35 degrees Celsius and higher during the day. In economics, it's believed that rising temperatures boost consumer spending in the summer, but does extreme heat really have positive effect on the economy? The Mainichi Shimbun asked experts.

High temperature days usually mean good weather, and this will encourage consumers to go out and spend. It is believed that extreme heat positively affects consumption when this cycle continues, sometimes referred to as the "extreme heat effect."

Certain products perform well under the influence of extreme heat. According to the Development Bank of Japan [1], expenditure on items such as watermelons, ice cream, sherbet and beverages excluding green tea increases more on "extremely hot days" when highs hit 35 C or above, compared to days with temperatures between 30-34.9 C or mildly hot days. Recently, heatstroke prevention items such as portable fans and cooling towels have been developed and have become commercially available, to the delight of consumers.

However, in the case of brutal heat, such economic benefits do not always surface. Takuya Hoshino, the chief economist at Dai-ichi Life Research Institute Inc., looked into the relationship between daily consumer expenditure and maximum temperature, and found that consumption trends changed significantly around the 35 C mark.

On days when highs stay between 30 and 34.9 C, the higher the temperature, the more spending there was. In contrast, on extremely hot days, the higher the temperature, the less consumption. One reason for this could be heightened caution against heatstroke, leading more people to refrain from unnecessary outings. Hoshino points out, "We need to be wary that excessively hot summers can cool down consumption."

Excessive heat can also strain household finances. If air conditioner usage increases to combat heat, power consumption will rise significantly, leading to higher electricity

bills. Heat can also adversely affect the growth of vegetables, especially leafy ones such as cabbage and lettuce.

Yoshiki Shinke, a senior executive economist at Dai-ichi Life Research Institute, says, "If the summer heat is excessive, vegetable prices may rise from summer to fall. Vegetables are familiar items that are frequently purchased, meaning that consumers are more alert when their prices increase compared to other goods. This could potentially affect spending."

While the Japanese government is trying to revitalize consumption through measures such as fixed tax reductions [2] and reviving subsidies for electricity and city gas bills, Shinke warns, "Severe heat could become an unexpected adversary (to the economy)."

(出典 : Does summer heat mean better sales? Maybe not for temps over 35 C, say Japan economists, The Mainichi, July 9, 2024, 原文のまま抜粋)

[1] the Development Bank of Japan: : 日本政策投資銀行

[2] fixed tax reductions : 定額減税

問題 2 次の二つの図は、令和 5 年度『エネルギー白書』からの引用である。これらの図に基づいて、以下の設問に答えなさい。

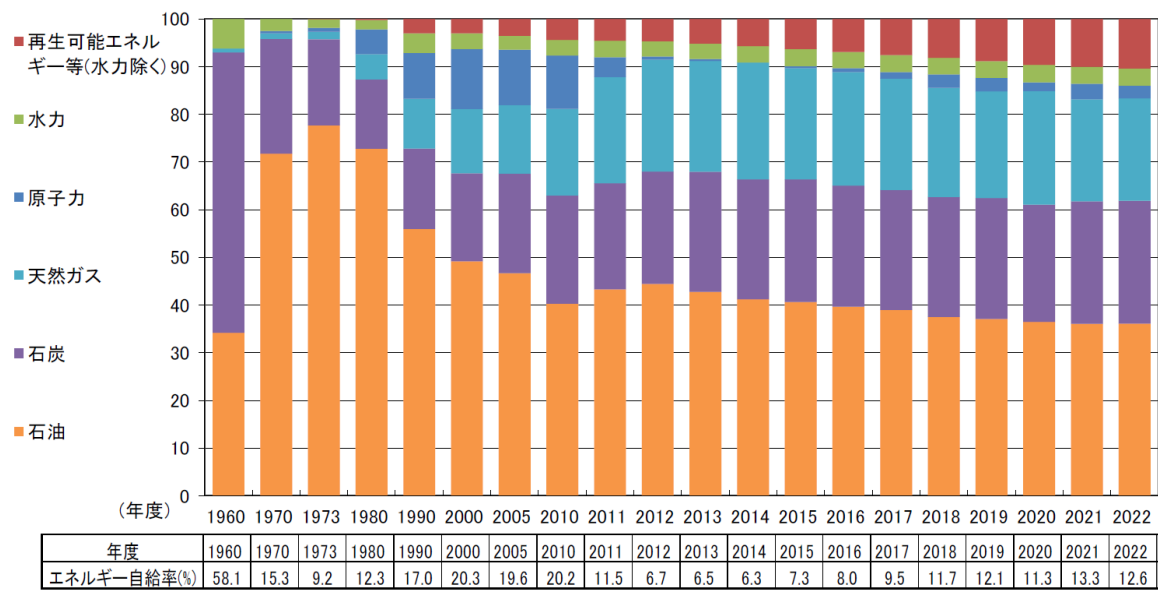


図 1 一次エネルギー国内供給の構成及びエネルギー自給率の推移

(注 1) IEA は原子力を国産エネルギーとしている。
 (注 2) エネルギー自給率 (%) = 国内算出／一次エネルギー供給×100。
 (注 3) 端数処理 (四捨五入) の関係で、グラフ内の構成比の合計が 100% とならないこと等がある (以下同様)。
 資料：1989 年度以前のデータは IEA 「World Energy Balances 2023 Edition」、1990 年度以降のデータは資源エネルギー庁「総合エネルギー統計」を基に経済産業省作成。

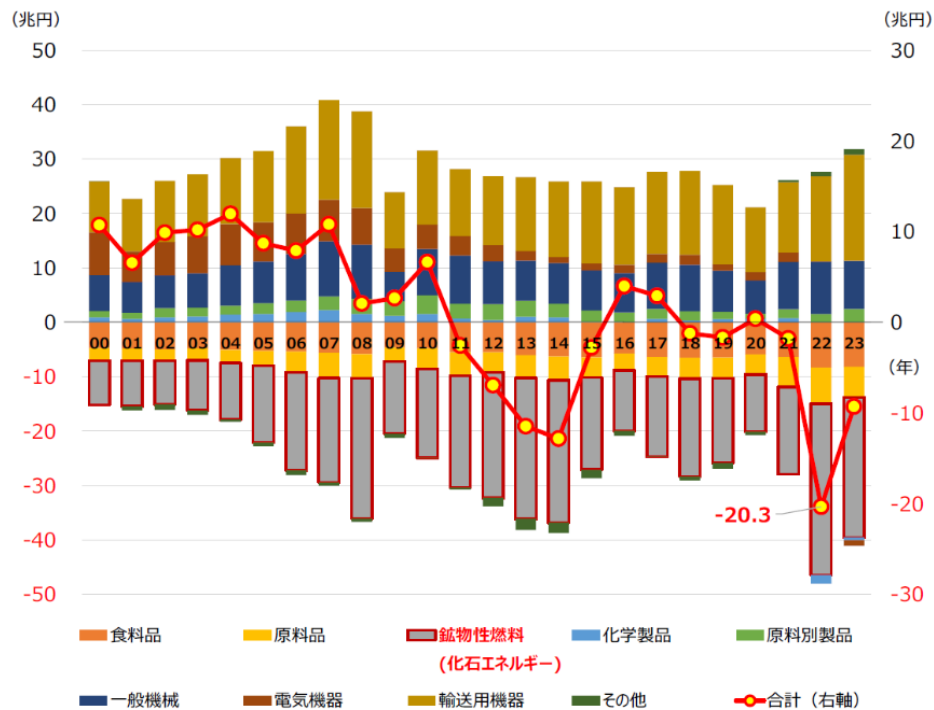


図 2 日本の貿易収支の推移

(注) 「鉱物性燃料」は、「石炭及びコークス及び練炭」、「石油及び石油製品」、「天然ガス及び製造ガス」の合計値であり、化石エネルギーに相当する。
 資料：財務省「貿易統計」を基に経済産業省作成。

設 問

問 1 図 1 の説明を 200 字以内で書きなさい。

問 2 図 1 と図 2 を踏まえて、わが国のエネルギー供給の問題ならびに今後のあり方について、200 字以内で書きなさい。