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第9講 >>> 文化 (9) ネイルアート

次の英文を読んで、あとの問いに答えなさい。

Go to a wedding party in Japan and you will see young women dressed in colorful *kimono* or fancy party dresses. (①) are that these women will also be wearing nail art. ^(A) They may have flowers matching their *kimono* patterns or eye-catching designs in the colors of their dresses painted on each fingernail. For many women, getting ready for a party means visiting a nail salon, as well as choosing
5 an outfit, hairstyle, and make-up.

Nail artists create small paintings on people's nails. ^(B) Nail art was born over five-thousand years ago, when people in Arab countries started putting color on their hands and nails. The French have a natural-style manicure, which is from the 17th century. In this style, the nail is painted pink and the nail end is painted white, to show beautiful, healthy nails. French manicures are still popular today,
10 but so are designs with pictures and small bright stones, and designs on long artificial nails called extensions. Nail artists today have changed simple French manicures into elegant (②) of art.

(③) are the nail artists in Japan? In Japan, most nail artists are women. That doesn't mean men can't enjoy nail art. In fact, more men are becoming interested in it. Nail artist Yoshi Ueda says, "In *kimono* design, there are different rules for men and women concerning colors and patterns.
15 Women's styles might be better for special occasions. Men's styles might be more suitable for everyday use. Taking a hint from men's *kimono* design, I try to create simple, elegant nail art. Anyone can wear it in their daily lives. 'Nail Art Biz' is my concept." It may take some time for nail art to become acceptable business wear. However as men bring new ideas into the nail art world, more men and women are designing and wearing nail art.

(④) do you become a nail artist? With practice, most people can color their nails. For a career in nail art, professional training is necessary. Japan has a 3-level examination system for nail artists. Students must pass written tests about science and cosmetics, and demonstration tests showing their practical skills. There is also a (⑤) of nail art contests. Professional nail artists join these contests to keep their skills up and explore new design ideas. Japanese nail artists have shown many
20 original designs and techniques in contests held in other countries. Their work is highly respected in the international nail art community.

(⑥) is important for becoming a nail artist? Professional nail artists suggest a university education. Nail artists create their art for other people. Besides painting designs, they need to communicate with their customers, advise them on design and health, and perhaps manage their own
30 nail art salons. Universities have classes for communication, art, health management and business skills. Students can also learn these skills in their daily lives on campus. Meeting people, joining a club, taking good care of yourself, and being responsible for your school work build necessary skills, too. You can get all this (⑦) in one place at a university.

(⑧) being a nail artist is not your dream? You can still enjoy nail art. Just go to a nail salon and
35 have your nails done. You don't need to wait for a special occasion.

(1) ①②⑤⑦の()に入る語をア～クから選びなさい。

- ア. color イ. experience ウ. hobby エ. number オ. chances カ. events キ. forms ク. times
①() ②() ⑤() ⑦()

(2) 下線部(A)(B)を日本語に訳しなさい。

- (A) _____

(B) _____

(3) ③④⑥⑧の()に入る語をア～クから選びなさい。

- ア. Now who イ. But why ウ. What if エ. And when オ. Why not カ. What else
キ. How much ク. So how
③() ④() ⑥() ⑧()

(4) 本文の内容とほぼ一致している文をア～キのうちから3つ選びなさい。

- ア. Nail art looks nice with party dresses, but it doesn't suit *kimono*.
イ. French-style manicures used to be popular. Now people prefer other designs.
ウ. Nail art is usually for women, but some men are trying it too.
エ. "Nail Art Biz" means companies let workers wear nail art on certain days.
オ. Nail art students usually go to contests to study for their examinations.
カ. University students can learn skills for nail art in classes and school activities.
キ. Nail art is not only for weddings and parties. It's fun anytime.
() () ()

(5) 本文のタイトルとして最も適切なものを以下のア～オから1つ選びなさい。

- ア. Starting Your Own Nail Salon
イ. How to Coordinate Nails and Clothing
ウ. Nail Art: An Art for Everyone
エ. Japanese Design and Nail Art
オ. It's Easy to Become a Nail Artist ()

Further Reading 次の文を日本語に訳しなさい。

A large amount of modern economic activity depends on the quality of the artists associated with the design. Danish and Finnish furniture owe their popularity not to engineering competence but to artistic worth.

(注) Danish : デンマークの Finnish : フィンランドの engineering competence : 技術力

