One morning in October, Shizuka, Junya, and Ben are talking in their classroom.

Shizuka: I saw you on Kaede Street yesterday morning. You were walking fast.

Ben: Yesterday morning? Oh, I was going to Ryota's house. I enjoyed playing *shogi* with him yesterday.

Junya: Oh, I didn't know you played shogi. Have you played it for a long time?

Ben: No. I started playing it after coming to Japan this year. When I was in America, I played *chess.

Junya: I don't think many people in Japan play chess.

Ben: So, I played it with players in other countries on the Internet, but I couldn't enjoy playing it because I couldn't see the player. I want to play it *face-to-face.

Shizuka: *I know how you feel.

Ben: Then, I told that to my friend, Ryota. He *recommended shogi to me. He said it was *similar to chess, and he told me the *rules. Some of the rules are similar to the rules of chess, so it was not difficult for me to understand them. At first, I couldn't *win against Ryota, but now, I am as a good player as Ryota.

Junya: That's great.

Then, their English teacher Mr. Ito, comes in the classroom, and talks to Shizuka, Junya, and Ben.

Mr. Ito: Good morning, Shizuka, Junya, Ben.

Junya: Good morning, Mr. Ito. We are talking about shogi and chess now.

Mr. Ito: Oh, I like both of them.

Ben: That's great. I want to play chess with you, Mr. Ito.

Mr. Ito: That sounds nice. Let's play it next time. *By the way, I think chess *pieces are cool. They are black or white, and taller than *shogi* pieces. I think the *knight piece is the coolest of all of the chess pieces.

Shizuka: Well, I have seen it before. It looks like the head of a *horse, right?

Ben: Yes. Chess pieces are different from *shogi* pieces. I like *shogi* pieces better. They are small and *flat, and I think they are cool because *kanji* is written on them. At Ryota's house, there is a large *ornament of a *shogi* piece. I like it very much.

Mr. Ito: Oh, I also have <u>one</u> at my house. I bought it when I visited Tendo City in Yamagata *Prefecture three years ago. Tendo is famous for *shogi* pieces. In Japan almost all of the *shogi* pieces are made in Tendo.

Junya: I want to know about Tendo. Please tell me more about it.

Mr. Ito: Sure. I hear people in Tendo *Domain started to make *shogi* pieces at the end of *Edo Period. One year in Tendo, rice didn't *grow well, so the *lord had to think of the way to *make money. Then, the lord told people in Tendo Domain to make *shogi* pieces. *In those days, *shogi* was played by a lot of people in Japan, so the

lord thought people would buy *shogi* pieces. Since then, people living in Tendo have made *shogi* pieces.

Ben: That's interesting! I'll visit Tendo if I have a chance to go to Tohoku.

Mr. Ito: I think you'll like Tendo. By the way, do you know people usually make chess pieces and *shogi* pieces from the same kind of tree?

Shizuka: Really? What kind of tree?

Mr. Ito: *Box tree. It is a short tree. The *wood of a box tree is light and *hard, so it is good for making chess pieces and *shogi* pieces.

Ben: I see. Chess and *shogi* are different in some points, but the same in other points. I want to learn about them more.

*chess:チェス(の) face-to-face:対面して

I know how you feel.: 私はあなたの気持ちがわかる。

recommended ~ to …:…に~をすすめた similar to ~:~に似ている

rules:ルール win against ~:~に勝つ By the way:ところで

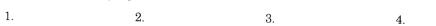
pieces:コマ knight:ナイト(チェスのコマの一つ) horse:馬 flat:平らな

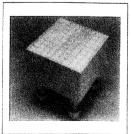
ornament:置き物 Prefecture:県 Domain:藩 Edo Period:江戸時代

grow:育つ lord:藩主 make money:お金をかせぐ In those days:当時

Box tree:ツゲの木 wood:木材 hard:硬い

- (ア) 本文中の の中に入れるのに最も適するものを、次の1~4の中から一つ選び、その番号を答えなさい。
 - 1. I wanted to play shogi, and I enjoyed playing it with a lot of people.
 - 2. I wanted to play shogi, but my friends in Japan don't play it.
 - 3. I wanted to play chess in Japan, and I enjoyed playing it with a lot of people.
 - 4. I wanted to play chess in Japan, but my friends in Japan don't play it.
- (イ) 本文中の――線部の one が指すものとして最も適するものを、次の 1 ~ 4 の中から一つ選び、 その番号を答えなさい。











- (つ) 次の $\mathbf{a} \sim \mathbf{f}$ の中から、本文の内容に合うものを**二つ**選んだときの組み合わせとして最も適するものを、あとの $\mathbf{1} \sim \mathbf{8}$ の中から一つ選び、その番号を答えなさい。
 - a. Ben thinks it was not so fun to play chess with players on the Internet because he couldn't see the player.
 - b. Ben asked Ryota to tell the rules of shogi, and Ryota told Ben about them.
 - c. Ben was as a good player as Ryota when he started to play *shogi*, and he sometimes won against Ryota.
 - d. Shizuka thinks that chess pieces are cool and the knight piece is the coolest of all.
 - e. The lord in Tendo Domain told people there to make shogi pieces to make shogi more famous.
 - f. A box tree is a short tree, and it is usually used to make both chess pieces and shogi pieces.
 - 1. aとb
- 2. a \(\) d
- 3. a \(\) f
- 4. bとc

- 5. b ≥ e
- 6. c と d
- 7. cとe
- 8. e と f







