

英語 A (その1)

☆答えはすべて【解答らん】に記入しなさい。

I 次の英文を読んで、各問に答えなさい。

By the time he was twenty, *Charlie began to dream of going to America. He wanted adventure, but even more he wanted to try his luck in a new world. England already knew him well. People liked him and he made them laugh, but somehow the future did not promise him all the success he longed (①). America, (②) the other hand, offered new hope.

When the opportunity came his way, he took it. An American company needed a principal comedian for their tour of the USA, Charlie got the job, and with the other members of the *troupe he sailed across the Atlantic to New York City. He was there for two years, but his work did not go smoothly. ③His jokes were very British and [his / was / accent / so]. American audiences did not laugh much. Soon he began to feel lonely and often wanted to go back to England. When the tour ended, he was glad to leave.

Charlie loved England and felt at home there, but deep down he knew that his future was in America. Thus, after only six months in England, he went back there again. For five months he toured the country with his group. It was after that tour, while the group were resting in Philadelphia, (④) Charlie got the chance of his lifetime.

A telegram arrived for him one day from a firm in New York called *Kessel and Bauman. They wanted him to go and see them. Charlie thought they were lawyers. He had a rich aunt somewhere in the States. Perhaps she had died and left him a fortune. With that ⑤(excite) thought, he quickly took the train to New York.

When he arrived, he was ⑥(disappoint). Kessel and Bauman, it turned (⑦), were not lawyers but producers of motion pictures. Really, though, ⑧this was great news for Charlie. They worked for *the Keystone Comedy Film Company. The company's founder, *Mr. Mack Sennett, had seen Charlie playing the part of a drunk some years earlier. He wanted Charlie to appear in the Keystone comedies instead (⑨) another actor.

For Charlie ⑩this was a big chance. He had often thought of ⑪(work) in films and had talked about it with his manager, but the people around him did not know how to make them, so ⑫the idea was dropped. He was not too keen about the Keystone comedies, but he might become an international star. After that, whatever he did, he would stay famous.

He was to appear in three films a week with a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars. That was twice as much as Charlie was getting on the stage. However, he said he wanted two hundred. Finally he was offered a contract for one year, with one hundred and fifty dollars for the first three months and one hundred and seventy-five dollars for the remaining nine. He had never been offered so much money in all his life. Work would start as soon as his tour ended. The year was 1913, and Charlie was twenty-four years old at the time.

* (注) Charlie: チャーリー troupe: 一団 Kessel and Bauman: ケッセル・アンド・バウマン社
the Keystone Comedy Film Company: キーストン・コメディ映画会社 Mr. Mack Sennett: マック・セネット氏

問1 本文の内容に関して、次の各問に英語で答えなさい。

- (1) What was Charlie's dream when he was twenty years old?
- (2) How long was Charlie in America before he returned to England?
- (3) He went back to England but he went to America again only after half a year. Why?
- (4) Why did Charlie think Kessel and Bauman were lawyers?
- (5) Why didn't Charlie accept the first contract?

問2 ①、②、⑦、⑨に入る最も適切なものをア～エからそれぞれ選び、記号で答えなさい。

ア. of イ. for ウ. out エ. on