平成29年度入学試験問題(後期)

英 語

注 意

- 1. 合図があるまで表紙をあけないこと。
- 2. 受験票は机上に出しておくこと。

Ⅰ 以下の英文を読み、下の問いに答えよ。

Imagine reading an automated news story that was composed entirely by a computer. Or imagine yourself sitting on a couch, conversing with an artificially intelligent psychotherapist who interacts with you from a screen across the room.

These are examples of a growing trend of automated and artificially intelligent technology that is being designed to communicate on behalf of, and at times in place of people.

While most people tend to think that automation affects only certain sectors of labor (especially work performed in blue-collar professions), the computerized automation of communication will have a serious impact on a wide variety of fields. A new study recently published examines the social and political impact of this transformation. What happens, asks author and Communication scholar Joshua Reeves of Oregon State University, if people increasingly rely on automated machines to carry out the socially essential work of communicating with one another? Reeves argues that automation of communication raises broad social, economic, and political concerns.

The economic consequences of automated communication are already affecting people who work in fields that rely heavily on communication, including psychotherapists, personal assistants, college advisers, life coaches, and even teachers and professors. In fact, most people have already been exposed to automated discourse when ordering fast food, learning the positions of political candidates, checking bank balances, or making doctor appointments.

"The widespread circulation of automatic communicating machines gradually reduces the opportunity and impulse for cooperative human struggle," says Reeves. As machines develop abilities in interpreting and producing discourse, they are gradually taking over many domains of social life in which communication is of utmost importance. In one example borrowed from Sherry Turkle's 2013 presentation to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a robotic baby animal is designed to function as a conversational companion for older adults who need caring for. But Reeves argues that this device is depriving people of the communicative act of listening to their elders. He quotes Turkle: "We are building the machines that will literally let the elderly's stories fall on deaf ears."

"By idealizing the machine, people become more impatient with the flaws and uncertainties of human relationships," writes Reeves. But communicative labor relies on the productive, spontaneous surplus of human communication to generate diversity and creativity. The socially essential work of human communication is being "drained of its spontaneity and creative potential." In an era of automated communicative labor, those uniquely human qualities are destined for elimination.

While blue-collar workers have been subject to automated labor for some time, people in other fields of work also should be concerned about their fate, says Reeves. He examines the threats to communicative workers such as journalists. "Robo-journalism" has become commonplace. In March 2014, when an earthquake hit southern California, *The Los Angeles Times* was able to use an algorithmic discourse generator called "Quakebot" to break the news. While some are not worried that robo-journalism will take over the field, others disagree. The company Narrative Science estimates that 90 percent of news stories will be bot-generated by 2030.

Reeves argues that as automated communication becomes more prevalent, people need to develop a stronger understanding of the challenges facing others in communication-oriented fields. While opening doors to other forms of creative work, automation also leads to social isolation and loss of labor opportunities.

(出典: National Communication Association. June 9, 2016. 一部変更あり)

- (1) 下線部(1)を和訳せよ。
- (2) 下線部(2)を和訳せよ。
- (3) 下線部(3)はどのような状況が起こることを危惧しているのか。本文に即して 50 字以内(句読点を含む)で述べよ。
- (4) 下線部(4)を和訳せよ。

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