

第1問 次の英文を読み、以下の問1と問2に答えなさい。

Are people in Japan happy? Perhaps not, according to the latest World Happiness Report¹⁾ released in March. The nation placed 54th among the 146 countries and regions covered by the U.N.-related report, up two notches²⁾ from the previous survey but nevertheless one of the lowest among developed economies. (中略)

Japan boasts a famously low crime rate, a high life expectancy³⁾ and it's the third-largest economy in the world in terms of gross domestic product⁴⁾. Granted, it does harbor societal and structural issues leading to comparatively⁵⁾ high suicide rates, gender wage gaps and notoriously⁶⁾ long working hours that occasionally manifest in *karoshi*, or death by overwork. And yet, why does a prosperous⁷⁾ nation known for its safe, clean streets and transportation networks, accessible education and universal health care rank so low when it comes to personal views toward happiness and well-being⁸⁾?

It basically comes down to cultural, religious and geographical characteristics impacting the way its people feel about the quality of their lives, experts say, perceptions that are shifting as millions of Japanese reassess⁹⁾ their priorities¹⁰⁾ amid the pandemic¹¹⁾.

“The concept of happiness varies between countries and cultures,” says Yukiko Uchida, a professor of social and cultural psychology at Kyoto University. “In the United States, for example, happiness is often measured by individual achievement, independence and self-sufficiency¹²⁾, whereas in Japan there's more weight on getting along with others in the community. In fact, openly boasting about one's happiness could be seen as self-centered¹³⁾ and even frowned upon.”

Uchida, who co-authored¹⁴⁾ a chapter in the latest World Happiness Report titled “Insights from the first global survey of balance and harmony,” says those differences in mentality affect how people behave when answering surveys.

(ALEX K.T. MARTIN “*Is Japan happy? Exploring the nation's evolving views of well-being,*” *the Japan times*, 5/28-29, 11 Longform から抜粋)

1)世界幸福度報告、2)段階、3)平均余命、4)GDP(国内総生産)、5)比較して、6)悪名高く、7)繁栄している、8)(持続的)幸福、9)再評価する、10)優先順位、11)感染爆発、12)うぬぼれ、13)自己中心の、14)共同執筆する

問1 課題文で述べられている、日本の誇れる点について述べなさい。

問2 日本の幸福度ランキングが低い理由について述べなさい。