

2

A

次の英文A, Bを読み, その文意にそって(21)から(26)までの()に入れるのに最も適切なものを1, 2, 3, 4の中から一つ選び, その番号を解答用紙の所定欄にマークしなさい。

An Answer in a Teacup

As in many other countries, people in India are concerned about the problem of plastic waste. After all, the country produces 5.6 billion kilograms of it every year. The system for managing plastic waste needs improvement because a lot of plastic ends up as trash on land and in waterways such as the Ganges River. In response, the Indian government planned to introduce a ban on plastic items that could only be used once. (21), though, the government was forced to change its plans because of the condition of the economy and worries about an increase in unemployment.

Nevertheless, there is one kind of situation where the use of plastic has come to an end. All 7,000 railway stations in India have replaced plastic teacups with brown clay teacups called *kulhads*. Long before plastic cups were used in India, people enjoyed drinking tea in these traditional cups. The minister for railways in India ordered railway stations to (22) *kulhads*. By doing so, he hopes the country will take an important step toward ending plastic waste.

There are several reasons why *kulhads* are better than plastic teacups. First, after they have been thrown away, they soon break down into substances that do not harm the environment. Second, the clay that *kulhads* are made from actually improves the flavor of the tea. Finally, using *kulhads* (23). Plastic cups are made with machines, but *kulhads* are made by hand. The Indian government estimates that hundreds of thousands of people will get extra work because of this change.

- (21) 1 In the end 2 Moreover
3 For one thing 4 Overall
- (22) 1 provide trash cans for 2 use less plastic in
3 only sell tea in 4 charge more for
- (23) 1 will create jobs 2 costs less money
3 is better for people's health 4 is just the beginning

- (24) 1 On the contrary 2
3 What is worse 4
- (25) 1 often go back for more 2 sometimes drop them
3 also eat leaves and flowers 4 bring them to their nests
- (26) 1 do not build nests 2
3 have poor hearing 4 lose many babies
5 are not easy to catch