

第2講

次の英文を読んで、設問に答えよ。

Have you ever given excuses that are not really true? When and why? It seems that everybody tells lies — well, not big lies, but small ones. We call them “(1) .” When do you tell a lie and who do you tell lies to? That is the problem. One study found that in conversation people often say ⁽²⁾[a
5 little / the truth / from / different / something]. Here are some examples.

Lying to hide something: people often lie because they want to hide something from someone. For example, ⁽³⁾a son doesn't tell his parents that he is dating a girl, because he is afraid they may say he is too young for that.
(4), he says he is going out with the boys.

10 Giving excuses which may not be true: sometimes people lie because they don't want to do something. For example, someone invites you to a party. You don't think it will be interesting, so you say that you are busy and can't come.

Lying to give someone good feelings: ⁽⁵⁾we often say something that may not be true to give someone good feelings. For example, your friend cooks dinner
15 for you, but it tastes terrible. Do you say so? No! You probably (6ア),
“Mmm, this is delicious!”

Lying to hide bad news: other times we don't want to (6イ) someone bad news. For example, you have just had a very bad day at work, but you don't want to (6ウ) about it. So, if someone asks about your day, you just say,
20 “ _____ (7) .”

Telling white lies isn't really all bad. Most of the time people do it because they want to protect a friendship.