

[2] 次の英文を読み, 設問に答えよ。

(60点)

An aggressive approach implies that the doctor can do something for the patients, and (1) this “can-do” attitude is as much a characteristic of American medicine as it is of the American character in general.

“Pragmatic Americans,” wrote Luigi Barzini in *The Europeans*, “consider the
5 very existence of problems intolerable and life with problems unacceptable. They believe that all problems not only must be solved, but also that they can be solved, and that in fact the main purpose of a man’s life is the solution of problems.” This means that Americans tend to feel it is better to do something rather than not do anything.

10 The can-do attitude has (2) its advantages. America has essentially eliminated *measles within its borders — something many other developed countries have not achieved — although cases are still contracted from persons abroad. The emphasis on medical research has resulted in a number of Nobel Prize-winning
15 discoveries that benefit people all over the world. Technological innovations such as CAT scanners are made widely available, and while they are undoubtedly overused, in many cases they provide diagnosis more comfortably and effectively than did older methods. Perhaps most dramatically, the American rate of heart attack has fallen by 40 percent in the past twenty years, and while doctors dispute whether this has been due to treatment or prevention, both were undertaken
20 aggressively.

But all this rushing about aggressively to do something can also *take its toll upon the American health. Neurasthenia, or nervous exhaustion, was at first called “the American Disease.” The French *psychiatrist Charcot in 1887 described neurasthenic Americans who today might be said to be (a) from “burnout”:
25 “It is actually true that many Americans have a way of working which is peculiarly their own: once they have set themselves a task they (b) to it stubbornly for a considerable period of time which sometimes runs into years. They go to extremes, they make it a matter of pride, nothing distracts them, and