

_ _ _ : 8.5

① Most of us fail in our efforts to self-improvement because we set our goals too high and we never have time to actually work for them.

② It is a basic mistake to announce our resolution to everybody because when we do not complete our resolution ~~and~~ and continue ^{our} old habits, we look stupid to others.

③

The writer did not carry out his resolution on New Year's Day because on first day, he was lazy. Next day, he tried to keep up a little as his family was observing him, even though he was not fully accomplishing. Eventually, his family got used to it and his passion faded.

④

(a) Intimidating → unsettling

(b) peril → Pitbull

(c) dwindle → ~~wane~~ Demist

(d) repel → ~~resist~~ Resist

(e) barb → taunt