Monitoring Plant Health and Landscape Maintenance Needs Post-Installation

Part 1: Dialogue

Emily (Landscape Architect): The park's landscaping looks great after installation, but we need to set up a maintenance plan to keep it healthy.

David (Colleague): Agreed. We should start with **irrigation calibration** to ensure plants get the right amount of water.

Emily: Good point. Overwatering can lead to root rot, while underwatering causes stress. We'll also need a **fertilization schedule** to maintain soil nutrients.

David: Right. And for plant structure, **seasonal pruning** is essential. It keeps trees and shrubs in shape while preventing disease.

Emily: Absolutely. We also need to monitor pests using **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** instead of relying solely on chemicals.

David: IPM helps control pests naturally and reduces environmental impact. Another factor is **soil amendment**—we should check nutrient levels and adjust as needed.

Emily: Yes, soil quality affects plant health significantly. If we notice deficiencies, we can add compost or minerals.

David: Sounds like a solid plan. Regular site visits will help us track plant health and make necessary adjustments.

Emily: I agree. Let's put together a maintenance schedule and share it with the management team.

David: Perfect. A well-maintained landscape will ensure long-term success for the project.

Part 2: Comprehension Questions

1. Why is **irrigation calibration** important for landscape maintenance?
   (A) It improves plant color
   (B) It ensures plants receive the right amount of water
   (C) It speeds up plant growth
   (D) It prevents over-fertilization
2. How does **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** benefit the landscape?
   (A) It removes all insects from the site
   (B) It requires daily pesticide use
   (C) It increases soil acidity
   (D) It controls pests with minimal environmental impact
3. Why is **seasonal pruning** necessary for trees and shrubs?
   (A) It prevents excessive fruit production
   (B) It helps maintain plant structure and health
   (C) It increases plant height rapidly
   (D) It replaces the need for fertilization
4. What is the purpose of **soil amendment** in landscape maintenance?
   (A) It adjusts soil conditions to support plant health
   (B) It eliminates the need for watering
   (C) It keeps pests away
   (D) It makes plants grow at the same speed

Part 3: Vocabulary with Definitions

- **Integrated Pest Management (IPM) (総合害虫管理)** – A sustainable approach to pest control using natural predators, habitat modifications, and minimal pesticide use.
- **Seasonal pruning (季節的剪定)** – The process of trimming trees and shrubs at specific times to improve health and structure.

- **Soil amendment (土壌改良)** – Adding materials like compost or minerals to improve soil quality and support plant growth.
- **Irrigation calibration (灌漑調整)** – Adjusting watering systems to provide plants with the correct amount of water.
- **Fertilization schedule (施肥スケジュール)** – A planned timeline for applying nutrients to maintain plant health.

Part 4: Answer Key

1. **Why is irrigation calibration important for landscape maintenance?**
   ✅ (B) It ensures plants receive the right amount of water
2. **How does Integrated Pest Management (IPM) benefit the landscape?**
   ✅ (D) It controls pests with minimal environmental impact
3. **Why is seasonal pruning necessary for trees and shrubs?**
   ✅ (B) It helps maintain plant structure and health
4. **What is the purpose of soil amendment in landscape maintenance?**
   ✅ (A) It adjusts soil conditions to support plant health