

HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY
HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION 1997

USE OF ENGLISH AS-LEVEL SECTION C READING AND LANGUAGE SYSTEMS Question-Answer Book

11.00 am-12.30 pm (1½ hours)

Q.P. Code: 5013

INSTRUCTIONS

- Write your Candidate Number, Centre Number and Seat Number in the boxes provided on this cover AND on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.
- Read carefully the instructions on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet and insert the information required (including the Q.P. Code) in the spaces provided.
- ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS: this Question-Answer Book contains the questions for Parts 1 and 2.
- Answers to all of Part 1 Questions 1 15 and to Part 2
 Questions 16 44 should be marked on the multiplechoice Answer Sheet. Answers to Part 2 Questions 45 –
 98 should be written in this Question-Answer Book.
- For multiple-choice questions, mark only ONE answer to each question. Two or more answers will score NO MARKS.
- 6. Marks will not be deducted for wrong answers.
- You are advised to spend approximately 20 minutes on Part 1 (Reading) and approximately 70 minutes on Part 2 (Language Systems).

This Question-Answer Book is the property of the Hong Kong Examinations Authority and should be RETURNED to the HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY after the examination.

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Read the following article and then answer questions 1-15. From the four choices given, choose the option which best answers each question. You should mark your answers to questions 1-15 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

THE ASIAN CHALLENGE:

British Member of Parliament David Howell contrasts East with West

THE rising power and influence of Asia is the most compelling theme of our times and is central to current political debate in the West.

The issue is important for several reasons. First, our 5 economy needs to be prepared for, and to live with, Asian dynamism, competition and capitalism, which will dominate global markets. Second, the shifting centre of gravity in world affairs affects the way we see our interests and shape our policies, especially foreign policy. Third, 10 and most importantly, we need to adjust our whole way of thinking about non-Western values and systems, and to adopt those elements of the Asian success story which can benefit us.

There is a need to be honest about this: we have to ask 15 what it is that gives energetic Asian cultures their amazing cohesion and drive. And having asked the question, we need to answer it frankly – much more frankly than most established Western 'thinkers' have been prepared to do in the past.

- 20 The West has to be clear-headed not just about adopting the business techniques of those now in the ascendant the Asian dynamos but also about the values and attitudes which lie beneath their success, as both economies and societies. Income per head is already 25 higher in Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore than in the UK. Incredibly, Japan alone now accounts for 56 percent of the world's savings as against the United States' five per cent. Add in the savings from the rest of Asia, and we can see clearly where the 21st century will get its finance.
- 30 Those who concede that Asia is marching ahead comfort themselves with the belief that it is all being achieved by state-driven investment of autocratic regimes which sooner rather than later will inevitably fail. A lack of energy supplies will also hamper their efforts, we are told.
 35 Yet these 'autocratic regimes' are privatising their industries and increasingly getting rid of state economic power. As for energy policies, most of these societies long ago made the decision to go nuclear. These policies do not depend on uncertain Middle East oil producers, or on 40 unreliable as well as environmentally-undesirable domestic coal supplies. So, the prospect emerges not just of richer Asian countries with far better public amenities, but of states with a cleaner environment and
- more reliable power supplies than Western governments for decades to come.

 The West's failure to catch up with what has occurred with such astonishing speed and power in parts of Asia in the last decade is widespread. It extends not just to the
- environment and physical infrastructure of modern Asian 50 societies, which people are amazed to find leave British and many other European cities looking run down and

dilapidated, but to the moral and social order for which they stand. European and American leaders are never happier than when sounding off about basic values, by 55 which they mean good family life, self-discipline, hard work, respect for elders, dedication to children's education, crime-free communities, suppression of drugs. and an emphasis on duty as well as rights. There is accumulating evidence, though, that these 'basic values', 60 actually so sadly lacking in our own societies, are flourishing in allegedly 'backward' Asia. Were we not told that Confucian philosophy imposed a fatal passivity on these peoples and that they could only be energised by good doses of Western capitalism and market forces? Or could it be that the secret lies in a mixture of such features of Western economics combined with some, but not all. Confucian values, creating a blend uniquely suited to the information age?

A particularly shocking comparison between Asia and the West emerges in the state of education. In the cities and even the impoverished countryside of Asia, one can see an intense commitment from parents to give their children a good education, something our own society is failing to match. What this actually means is that millions of children – Indonesian, Indian, Malaysian, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese and countless others – are coming out of school more attuned to the age of computers than their Western counterparts. If their parents, who often came from agricultural backgrounds, have already lifted their societies to the top rank of economic performers, the mind spins to think of the impact a fully-educated and highly-skilled younger generation will have, leaving the West even further behind.

While the Western eye focuses on government systems and degrees of democracy, the grassroots relationships inside modernising Asian societies are rarely examined. There has been a reluctance to face one of the main features of the Asian success story. This is that the social institutions of modern Asian society, especially the family, are now proving more adaptable, tougher and a better source of security than those we have in the West. None of the more advanced Asian states has any structure resembling a welfare state or a universal system of benefit and care provision. Yet none of these countries are experiencing the disastrous decline in both the nuclear and the extended family, so evident in Western societies.

We must face the fact that not only are some Asian nations better equipped economically and technically to succeed in the information age, but their underlying philosophies, values and social structures may be more suited to support this success – indeed, may actually account for it.

- 1. The word 'compelling' in the phrase 'the most A. speed and power. compelling theme of our times' (lines 1-2) means B. Asia. something which C. the failure. A. we must do. D. the last decade. B. we should be frightened of. C. cannot be realised. D. cannot be ignored. modern Asian societies 2. The phrase 'centre of gravity' (lines 7-8), means B. A. the balance of power. modern Asian societies. B. the changing environment. C. the last decade. C. the world economy. D. D. competition and capitalism. * 3. In paragraph 3, the writer suggests that Western - European cities thinkers have A. been the cause of Asian cohesion and drive. B. been focusing on the questions rather than on their D. have better social order. C. not asked enough questions of Asian leaders. D. been too critical of Asia in the past. American leaders 4. In paragraph 4, which of the following does the writer suggest that the West needs to consider accepting? 1. Asian business techniques their societies. C. 2. Asian values Asian attitudes rights. A. 2 and 3 only C. all of the above B. 1 and 2 only D. none of the above West. 5. The writer's attitude towards the fact that 'Japan alone now accounts for 56 percent of the world's savings' story lies in a mixture of (lines 26-27) is one of 1. Western capitalism A. surprise.
 - The word 'It' (line 48) refers to 10. The word 'which' (line 50) refers to the environment and physical infrastructure of speed and power in parts of Asia. 11. The writer suggests that - compared to Asian cities A. are historically much more interesting. are in a poor state of repair. C. have a more modern infrastructure. 12. In lines 53-54, the writer states that European and like talking a lot about nothing in particular. enjoy trying to dream up new 'basic values' for emphasise that duty is more important than like to talk about the basic values of life in the 13. The writer feels that the reason for the Asian success 2. market forces 3. Confucian values A. 1 and 3 only. C. all of the above. B. 2 and 3 only. D. none of the above. 14. The phrase 'their parents' (line 78) refers to Indonesian, Indian, Malaysian, Chinese, Thai and Vietnamese parents. B. countless other parents. C. farming parents. parents of all Asian children. 15. The writer states that Westerners usually look at Asian development in terms of 1. government systems degrees of democracy
 - 3. grassroots relationships
 - A. 3 only.
- C. 1 and 3 only.
- B. 1 and 2 only.
- D. all of the above.

8. Which area does the writer feel will have the cleanest environment in the next century?

6. Which of the factors below does the writer believe will

7. Which of the following does the writer feel is the case

2. Asian coal supplies are unreliable.

3. Asian coal is environmentally bad.

1. Middle East oil producers are not dependable.

L. Asia

B. irritation.

D. understanding.

hinder Asian success?

1. autocratic regimes

3. energy supplies

2. state-driven investment

concerning current energy supplies?

C. pride.

A. 1 only

B. 3 only

A. 1 only

B. 2 only

- 2. the Middle East
- 3. the West
- A. 1 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 only
- D. none of the above

C. all of the above

C. all of the above

D. none of the above

D. none of the above

From the four choices for questions 16-33, choose the option which would best complete the article if inserted in the blank. You should mark your answers to questions 16-33 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

Hormone found to cause weight loss in obese mice

The US government estimates that 58 million adults in America, or a third of the adult population, are obese, which (16) as (17) 20% or more above the ideal. The figures show a (18) jump from a decade ago when a quarter of the nation's adults were obese.

Friedman and his colleagues showed that obese mice

Scientists have managed to __(19)__ genetically-obese mice to lose a third of their weight in two weeks by injecting them with __(20)__-discovered hormone called 'leptin' __(21)__ regulates body fat. __(22)__ studying the grotesquely-obese mice, the scientists, __(23)__ by Jeffrey Friedman of the Rockefeller University, have been looking at human subjects and have found a __(24)__-identical hormone.

Not only did the leptin-treated mice __(29)__ down, the researchers reported, but other measures of the body's metabolism also changed, such as body temperature, appetite and activity. These metabolic effects indicate that leptin plays a __(30)__ role in both monitoring and controlling body fat and energy balance.

The (25) for the elusive hormone actually began in the early 1970s. Then, last December, Friedman and his co-workers announced that they had identified a leptin-producing gene that seemed to make the mice in their experiments lose weight.

The researchers found that obese mice given a human leptin also lost weight. This suggests that the hormone might some day be used __(31)_ a high-tech weight-reducing drug in people. '__(32)_ human leptin reduced weight in the mice __(33)_ the possibility that giving leptin to people might produce similar results,' Friedman said.

(Freely adapted from an article in the Los Angeles Times, 27th July, 1995.)

16.	A. B. C. D.	defines defined is defined are defined	25.	A. B. C. D.	search attempt research study
17.	A. B. C. D.	weighing weight weighed to weigh	26.	A. B. C. D.	introduced included injected inserted
18.	A. B. C. D.	heavy substantial concrete physical	27.	A. B. C. D.	in general by chance on average in full
19.	A.B.C.D.	produce encourage get monitor	28.	A. B. C. D.	no such by no means any not at all a none whatsoever
20.	A.B.C.D.	a freshly a newly a lately an earlier	29.	A. B. C. D.	thin slim slender refine
21.	A. B. C. D.	it and this which	* 30.	A. B. C. D.	central chief reliable top
22.	A. B. C. D.	Likewise Moreover Similarly Besides	31.	A. B. C. D.	by with like as
23.	A. B. C. D.	lead leaded leading led	32.	A. B. C. D.	The fact that It is because Since Given that
24.	A. B. C. D.	mostly nearly similarly soundly	33.	A. B. C. D.	rises raises arouses arises

The following editorial is in three paragraphs. From each set of four options, choose the most suitable one so that the passage makes sense as a whole. You should mark your answers to questions 34-44 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

Lessons that cost lives

The cause of the tragic fire on New Year's Day 1996 in a dormitory for factory workers in Shenzhen is still unknown. But there is no mistaking the neglect of fire safety standards which

- (34) A. have recently been improved, but
 - B. the authorities have approved, but
 - allowed the blaze to spread rapidly, and
 - D. are similar to those in Hong Kong, and

which prevented residents from escaping. Nineteen people died and 37 were injured in the fire. There would have been no deaths

- (35) A. if the workers sleeping in the dormitory had been safely housed.
 - B. if the factory owner had locked the factory door.
 - C. if safety standards had been completely ignored.
 - D. if the workers had been working conscientiously.

Clearly, measures need to be taken to prevent such incidents in future.

It is premature to blame a particular individual

- (36) A after existing safety standards have been raised.
 - B. once results have been completely finalised.
 - C. before more stringent safety standards have been raised.
 - D. until the outcome of the official investigation.

Yet, the numerous tragedies that have occurred in Shenzhen in recent years clearly point to poor safety standards as the primary cause of the tragedy. In part, this situation has arisen because

- (37) A. the government has generally been too vigilant.
 - B. the Chinese authorities have been monitoring safety standards.
 - C. so many businesses in Shenzhen are foreign-owned.
 - D. standards of work have always been very low in China.

In fact, one of Shenzhen's main attractions to outside investors is

- (38) A. its strict factory standards.
 - B. the huge market for consumer products.
 - C. the need for full factory and dormitory insurance.
 - D. the lack of building and investment control.

It should come as no surprise, therefore,

- (39) A. when this situation is exploited to the full
 - B. that Hong Kong companies are moving to Vietnam.
 - C. to see the government exercising increased control.
 - D. that the authorities should insist on high standards.

The government authorities, however, cannot simply blame_foreign companies for repeatedly ignoring calls to improve standards

- (40) A. (as the Hong Kong government has claimed),
 - B. (as future foreign investors have considered doing),
 - C. (as the Shenzhen factory is alleged to have done).
 - D. (as the Chinese government has never stated).

if the authorities, themselves, fail to follow the warnings with action. Indeed, foreign ownership should not be used as an excuse by the Shenzhen authorities

- (41) A. to keep raising local taxes on factories.
 - B. for their own failure to tighten controls.
 - C. for pirating computer software for customers.
 - D. to insist on compliance with their regulations.

If the Guangdong Provincial Fire Bureau was aware of the dormitory's shortcomings, why did it permit the company to continue housing its workforce in such conditions? Unfeeling companies put lives at risk because they

- (42) A. lose nothing by having no principles.
 - B. pay workers less than they should.
 - C. allow workers to sleep on the job.
 - D. order workers out of their factories at the end of the day.

The way to a businessman's heart is

- (43) A. a difficult trend to follow.
 - B. via a government agent.
 - C. through XO brandy and his mistress.
 - D. through his pocket.

If heavy fines or closure are what it takes to make companies act,

- (44) A. they certainly should be avoided at all cost.
 - B. the authorities should not hesitate to impose them.
 - C. businesses should be more responsible for workers' lives.
 - D. the Chinese government should consult businesses on these points.

Human lives must not be sacrificed for a little extra profit. Companies which cannot accept that observing proper safety standards is part of the cost of doing business in Shenzhen should not be in business.

(Freely adapted from an editorial in the South China Morning Post, 4th January, 1996.)

You should write your answers to ALL the remaining questions (45-98) in this Question-Answer Book.

The article below has been produced in two versions. Version 2 has some missing words and phrases. Read Version 1 and then fill in the blanks in Version 2 for questions 45–66 in such a way that the meaning of Version 1 is preserved. You should also make sure that your answers are grammatically correct, paying attention to tenses, plurals, etc.

Version 1

Beijing buyers cheated by coal gangs

Military police in Beijing have been aiding and abetting criminal gangs who are selling low-quality coal and swindling 40 percent of the city's coal buyers, according to an investigation by the *Workers' Daily*.

Most of Beijing is heated by coal from the Datong mines which are 380 kilometres to the north of the capital. Normally, the coal is shipped to Beijing by rail and its distribution is supposed to be the monopoly of the Beijing Coal Corporation. However, since 1991 the Corporation has seen its annual sales drop from nearly 10 million tonnes to just over six million. Its operating profits have also dwindled to next to nothing.

The Corporation's prices are being undercut by coal gangs who run a number of illicit schemes. These schemes involve transporting coal by truck rather than by rail, even though road transport is problematic and theoretically more expensive. The gangs overcome transport problems by paying the military police, who then help them in a number of ways. For example, they hire out their military vehicles so that the gangs can evade road and bridge tolls and can even avoid checkpoints. Some gangs buy military police registration plates, while others make fake plates for their trucks.

On their way to Beijing, the truck drivers usually stop at guest houses. While they are 'resting', the guest house owners mix, or

sometimes switch, the Datong coal with inferior coal. The guest house owners make a profit by selling off the Datong coal they remove while the drivers get free board and lodging and subsequently pass off their new loads onto unwary buyers.

There are many other types of illegal activities. Trucks are only allowed to enter Beijing after 8 pm, and the gangs make full use of the darkness. Some pad their loads out with empty gas barrels, used tyres and even large cement blocks. Other gangs mix in coal from local mines which is cheaper but of lower quality.

When it comes to selling the coal in Beijing, a number of things may happen. Purchasers often cannot tell what they are buying. Some do know, but accept bribes of up to 28 yuan a tonne for looking the other way. Some customers use weighbridges to check how much coal they are buying; here the gangs often resort to 'making a chicken's nest'; that is, they throw blocks of solid coal, which weigh more but are less valuable, onto the trucks' loads. Indeed, many customers are now having to buy twice the amount of winter coal they did before.

Police have been making an effort to stop these illegal activities, but they have achieved very little. Part of the reason for this, according to the *Workers' Daily*, is that the illegal operators receive tip-offs before police raids.

You should make sure that your answers are grammatically correct, paying attention to tenses, plurals, etc.	Marker's Use only
Version 2	
In Beijing, a big coal fraud is being run by (45) to the	45
extent that nearly half of the people who buy coal are being cheated. The Beijing Coal	
Corporation has held the (46)for coal distribution since 1991. Its sales, however,	46
have fallen drastically as a result of the fraud.	
Beijing is heated by coal which is usually brought into the city (47)	47
from the city of Datong. A certain amount, however, comes (48),	48
although transporting coal like this is (49) and (50)	49
	50
To get around these problems, the gangs which are at the forefront of the fraud have	£1
come to an arrangement with the (51) Some use	51
army (52) to carry their coal, which means that they do not	52 53
have to pay (53) or stop at (54) Gangs also rely on	. 53
using registration plates which are (55) or (56) illegally.	54 55
Cheating frequently occurs when truck drivers stop at (57)as	56
they drive to Beijing, where the (58) have	57
come to an arrangement with the drivers.	58
The second of th	
The fraud also takes place in a number of other ways. Gangs replace some of the Datong coal with	
lower-quality (59) or make it look as if there is more	59
coal than there actually is by hiding such objects as (60),	60
(61) and (62)	-61
under the coal on a truck.	62
When the shipments reach the customers, some buyers do not realise that they are purchasing	
substandard coal. Others simply do not say anything because they have been (63)	63
Sometimes customers are fooled because the gangs have made the loads on the trucks	
appear heavier by adding (64) blocks.	64
As a result of these schemes, many customers are now using twice as much coal as in the	
past. The police have not been successful in stopping the gangs because every time they	65
plan a (65), the gangs get a (66)	66
, in the second	<u> </u>
Q. 4 TOTAL	

For questions 67–77, the statements in Column B can be paired with those in Column A so that the second statement follows naturally from the first. The two correctly-matched statements from Column A and Column B form a pair, but if all the statements in the exercise are put together, they DO NOT form a complete passage. Write the letters of the statements from Column B in the spaces provided in the Answer Column as shown in the example. Each letter should be used ONCE ONLY.

	Column A	Answers	Column B					
a.	Five cars had their windscreens broken by cement that fell from a construction site in Wong Chuk Hang Road in Aberdeen.	a. <u>6</u>	A.	Neighbours found the body of the 32-year-old from Shan King Estate, Tuen Mun the following morning.				
67.	Sixteen men aged between 20 and 50 were rounded up in an anti-drug raid last night.	67	В.	Hours later, another jobless man, 51, was pulled unconscious from the harbour near				
68.	A long-haired youth held up a cashier at a supermarket in Sha Tin on Wednesday evening.	68	C.	the Jordan Road ferry pier. He was carrying what appeared to be a pistol and escaped with an undisclosed amount of money.				
69.	Three well-dressed men, with pistols and a knife, raided a computer company in Wang Kwun Road in Kowloon Bay and fled with parts and software worth \$1.4m.	69	D.	The vehicle bounced off the anti-crash railings into an articulated lorry.				
70.	A man gassed himself in the family car after a dispute with his wife late Tuesday night, police said.	70	E.	The accident prompted frustrated passengers on buses to get out and walk to a nearby housing estate.				
71.	Forty passengers were injured and a driver was killed in a collision between a Kowloon Motor Bus and a Citybus yesterday.	71	F.	Neighbours alerted the police, who found Lai Ying Kit in his flat in Tai Kok Tsui. The woman told police she had no idea he had passed away.				
72.	A woman who had just withdrawn her life's savings was robbed by three men who claimed they were armed.	72.	G.	The police are investigating after complaints from the vehicle owners.				
7 3.	A man thought to be a police officer broke into his Tin Hau Temple flat to find his 40-year-old wife dead in the bath.	73	H.	The operation took place in a housing estate in Sheung Shui after two months of undercover work.				
74.	Five people were injured last night in an eight-vehicle pile-up which closed three	74	I.	The fatal crash occurred near Tuen Mun at around 6.30 pm.				
	lanes of the New Territories-bound Tuen Mun Highway		J.	The victim, 48, was accosted leaving the Overseas Trust Bank, taken to the back of a building in Mody Road, and forced to hand				
75.	Ma Kwok-wai, 31, was seriously injured when the car he was travelling in careered out of control near Yuen Long.	75	K.	over the money. Investigators found that the woman had				
76.	A 33-year-old unemployed man was admitted to hospital after he was found unconscious in his Ngau Tau Kok Road home following an apparent overdose of tablets.	76	L.	bolted the entrance after telling the maid to go out. Cash and other valuables worth \$10,000 were also stolen.				
77.	An elderly woman slept beside her husband for three days without realising he was dead.	77						

Correct the errors in the following passage. Lines (a) to (d) are examples. No line has more than one error and some lines are correct. Changes to punctuation should not be made. Do not make unnecessary changes. If you think there is no error in a line, put a tick ($\sqrt{}$) in the space provided (example a).

Corrections MUST be done EXACTLY as follows:

a word which needs to be changed — underline the wrong word and write the correct version in the space provided (example b);

an extra word — draw a diagonal line through the word you wish to delete and write that word in the space provided (example c);

a missing word — mark the position of the missing word with a 'A' sign and write the missing word in the space provided (example d).

			1		
SAFETY TIPS FOR TRAVELLERS			Marker's		
This hotel supports the National Citizen's	a	<u> </u>	Use Only		
Crime Prevention Campaign where aims	b	<u>Which</u>			
to take the bite out of the crime with the	700 C	the			
help the American Hotel & Motel Association	d	O			
Don't answer the door in your hotel without	78.		78		
verify who is at the door. If a person	79.	•	70		
claim to be a hotel employee, call the front	_				
desk and asked whether someone from the		<u> </u>	80		
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staffs is supposed to have access			82		
to your room and for that purpose.			83		
Use the main entrance of the hotel when returned			84		
to your hotel late in evening. Be observant and			85		
look around before enter the car park.	86		86		
Close the door secure whenever you	87		87		
are in your room and use all	88		. 88		
the locking devices that provided.	89		89		
 Don't leave guest room keys on restaurant tables, 	90		90		
at the swimming pool, or in another places	91		91		
where they can easily stolen.	92		92		
 Don't be invite strangers to your room. 	93.		93		
 Place all your valuables in the hotels safe. 	94		94		
 Don't leave valuables items in your car. 	95		95		
Check for to see that any glass doors or windows	96		96		
and any connecting room doors locked	97		97		
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1997 Use of English (Section C) Key

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94.	<u>hotels</u>		hotel // ho	oteľ's		X ho	tels'		X hotel			
95.	<u>valuables</u>		valuable									
96.	for		for					-				
97.	doors /locked		are									
98.	left		leave									
						-						

[NOTE: for the summary cloze (questions 45 – 66) and the proofreading exercise (questions 78 – 98), there were a number of alternate correct answers.]

^{*} These items were deleted in the live paper as they were found to be unsuitable.