

2003-CE
ENG LANG

SYL B
PAPER 2

HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION 2003

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE (SYLLABUS B) PAPER 2
READING COMPREHENSION AND USAGE
Question-Answer Book**

10.30 am – 12.00 noon (1½ hours)

Subject Code: 021

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write your Candidate Number, Centre Number and Seat Number in the boxes provided on this cover **AND** on the Answer Sheet.
2. Read carefully the instructions on the Answer Sheet and insert the information required (including the Subject Code) in the spaces provided.
3. **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS:** this Question-Answer Book contains the questions for Parts 1 and 2.
4. Answers to Questions 1 – 48 should be marked on the Answer Sheet. Answers to Questions 49 – 96 should be written in this Question-Answer Book.
5. 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.
7. Questions in Part 1 (Comprehension) carry two marks each while those in Part 2 (Usage) carry one mark each.
8. You are advised to spend approximately 40 minutes on Part 1 (Comprehension) and approximately 50 minutes on Part 2 (Usage).
9. Supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number on each sheet and fasten them with string inside this Question-Answer Book.

Candidate Number									
Centre Number									
Seat Number									

Marker's Use Only	
Marker No.	
Total	

Checker's Use Only	
Checker No.	
Total	

PART 1**COMPREHENSION (2 marks each)**

Passage A

Read the following article and then answer questions 1 – 16. Choose the best answer for each question and mark your answer on the multiple-choice answer sheet. (32 marks)

The Wizard behind Harry Potter*By Tim Bouquet*

5 'I CAN'T WAIT!' exclaims nine-year-old Alula Greenberg. It's 9 a.m. outside a bookshop in London, and Alula is at the front of a line of 100 excited children and parents. They peer through the windows at stacks of a new novel, eyes searching for the woman who has brought them here – and to bookshops around the globe – and who is getting ready to sign copies of her latest book.

10 Children in more than 30 countries are just wild about Harry, their bespectacled hero who discovers on his eleventh birthday that he is a wizard. For those who don't know: Harry Potter inherited his magical powers from his parents, who have been slaughtered by the evil wizard Lord Voldemort. Harry then has a series of thrilling adventures at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

15 Rowling has so enchanted children with her imagination and vivid characters that the first four stories in the series have taken up permanent residence at the top of the best-seller lists. To date, they have sold an astonishing 41 million copies. In the digital age, when it is said kids don't give a fig for the printed word, Joanne Kathleen Rowling has turned more children on to reading than any other living author.

25 The story of J.K. Rowling's near-magical rise to fame is almost as well known as the characters she creates. She was stuck on a train in 1990 when Harry walked into her mind fully formed. She spent the next five years constructing the plots of seven books, one for every year of his secondary-school life. Rowling started writing the first book, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, in Portugal, where she was teaching English and had married a journalist. The marriage lasted barely a year, but produced baby Jessica. Leaving Portugal, she arrived in Edinburgh in 1993. She had just enough money for a deposit on a flat and some baby equipment. 'I was depressed and angry. Angry that I had messed up my life and let my daughter down.' She went to visit a friend of her sister's who had a baby boy. 'His bedroom was full of toys,' she recalls. 'Jessica's toys could fit into a shoe box. I came home and cried my eyes out.'

30 At first, nobody wanted to publish *Harry Potter*. She was told that the plot, like her sentence construction, was too complex. However, she at last found a publisher, Bloomsbury, and, armed with a \$12,000 grant from the Scottish Arts Council, ploughed into book two, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. In 1997 Rowling received her first royalty cheque for *Sorcerer's Stone* and

50 quickly put it in the bank, not knowing when, or if, more would follow. Until then she was 'a happily obscure person'. However, by book three, she had skyrocketed to the top of the best-seller lists. A row of zeroes appeared on the author's bank balance, and her life was turned upside down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her small flat.

55 One person who is not here to see and share her success is her mother, who died in 1990. She had no idea that her daughter had started writing stories about Harry Potter. In a moving scene in *Sorcerer's Stone*, Harry stares into a magic mirror that lets him see what he most craves in life. In it he sees his dead parents seemingly alive. It is a rare autobiographical insight into Rowling's feelings about her own loss. 'I miss her daily,' she says. 'I still hear her voice. It's very painful. My father is immensely proud. He would have been proud whatever I'd succeeded at. But books were my mother's big passion. Having a daughter who was a writer would have been a very big deal, even if I'd only sold three copies.' She's sold a few more than that, of course. But this unpretentious woman has only recently learned to admit she enjoys being rich. 'The biggest luxury is that it stops you worrying. Not a day goes by when I am not thankful for that.'

65 So what has Rowling got that other writers haven't? 'Potions, intrigue, magic, and what happens next,' says a schoolteacher, Annie Williams, who has read the books with her students. Rowling may write about wizards, ghosts and elves, but her books are driven with all the suspense and twists of detective novels. Perhaps that's why Harry is also hugely popular with adults. Stories of parents trying to read each new volume ahead of their children are common.

75 Back in the London bookshop, the doors burst open. Camera flashes blaze. The queue to the signing table is twitching with young autograph-seekers. Just before the fans descend, Rowling takes a moment to ponder life after Harry Potter. 'What appeals to me is sending in manuscripts for other books under another name. Anonymity was a nice place to be.' But when she sees young Alula's smiling face, she relaxes visibly, happy to be popular children's author J.K. Rowling. 'Hi, how are you?' she asks as though greeting a long-lost friend. While others try to understand Rowling's success, this nine-year-old knows why the magic works. 'Because it's exciting.' It really is that simple.

Source: Adapted from Tim Bouquet, "The Wizard behind Harry Potter", *Reader's Digest*, April 2001.

1. Alula Greenberg can't wait to
 - A. get to a London bookshop.
 - B. get to the front of the queue.
 - C. get a signed copy of a book.
 - D. find out who is inside the shop.
2. In line 5, 'the woman' mentioned is
 - A. a parent.
 - B. a writer.
 - C. the owner of the bookshop.
 - D. the person who took Alula to the shop.
3. In lines 8 – 9, 'just wild about' means
 - A. amused by.
 - B. happy about.
 - C. optimistic about.
 - D. enthusiastic about.
4. Paragraph 2 is about
 - A. the background of the main character in the Harry Potter books.
 - B. the number of children who like Harry Potter.
 - C. why children like the Harry Potter books.
 - D. people who don't know anything about Harry Potter books.
5. In line 19, 'they' refers to the
 - A. best-seller lists.
 - B. series.
 - C. first four stories.
 - D. characters.
6. In line 21, '..... kids don't give a fig for the printed word,' means children
 - A. are not interested in reading.
 - B. never read good books.
 - C. are unable to read.
 - D. will not buy digital books.
7. According to paragraph 4, Rowling got the idea for the Harry Potter books from
 - A. someone she met on the train.
 - B. her own imagination.
 - C. teaching in a secondary school.
 - D. other characters she created.
8. According to paragraph 4, Rowling was upset because she
 - A. had to leave her daughter in Portugal.
 - B. could not afford to buy many toys for her daughter.
 - C. still loved her husband.
 - D. did not have enough money for a flat.
9. In line 45, 'ploughed into' means
 - A. started writing.
 - B. started reading.
 - C. found a publisher for.
 - D. thought of a plot for.
10. At first, nobody was interested in publishing *Harry Potter* because
 - A. the book was too expensive.
 - B. the story was difficult to follow.
 - C. they did not have enough money.
 - D. Rowling had only written one book.
11. According to paragraph 5, which of the following statements are true?
 1. Rowling made a lot of money.
 2. Rowling's life changed a lot.
 3. Journalists wanted to interview Rowling.
 4. The Harry Potter books were very popular.
 - A. 1 and 2
 - B. 1, 3 and 4
 - C. 2, 3 and 4
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
12. In line 70, 'it' refers to
 - A. writing books.
 - B. learning to admit.
 - C. living in luxury.
 - D. being rich.
13. From paragraph 6, we know that Rowling's father
 - A. has died.
 - B. helped Rowling become successful.
 - C. always wanted Rowling to be a writer.
 - D. is always proud of Rowling.
14. Paragraph 7 is about
 - A. why the Harry Potter books are so popular.
 - B. the stories in the Harry Potter books.
 - C. people's opinions of the Harry Potter books.
 - D. why children like the Harry Potter books
15. From lines 86 – 88, readers get the impression that Rowling
 - A. would like to live somewhere else.
 - B. regrets writing the Harry Potter books.
 - C. doesn't really like being famous.
 - D. would like to change her name.
16. The most suitable subtitle for the article would be
 - A. *Tim Bouquet meets the fans of Harry Potter.*
 - B. *Tim Bouquet finds out why Harry Potter is so popular.*
 - C. *Tim Bouquet meets the woman who changed children's attitudes to reading.*
 - D. *Tim Bouquet talks to J.K. Rowling about her parents.*

The Legend of Bruce Lee

By Florence Ng and Neil Western

As a young boy growing up in the Guangdong port of Shunde in the 1970s, Wang De-chao was forced to keep his obsession with kung fu king Bruce Lee a secret. At the time, Communist authorities discouraged martial-arts fighting, viewing it as a hotbed of triad recruitment and gangland crime, while Lee's programmes and films were not screened on the mainland's state-controlled television. As mainland officials gradually loosened their attitudes towards the Chinese action star, Wang became more overt with his interest. He collected Lee memorabilia, made contacts with the star's fans around the world and researched a book on the icon. Then, five years ago, he made a discovery which excited him more than anything else. Lee's roots were in Shunde, where Wang had returned to work in 1988.

Rumours had abounded for years that Lee's ancestors came from the region, but many Guangdong cities had claimed him as their own. Wang investigated. After interviewing the centenarians living in the village of Juan'an, he discovered that the martial-arts star's father, Lee Hoi-tsuen, and grandfather, Lee Jun-biao, were both born there – just 30 minutes from the centre of Shunde.

Wang set about commemorating the 'home-town' hero. First, the house where Bruce Lee's father, an opera star, was born was adorned with a brass plaque and turned into a tourist spot. Photographs of the kung fu idol as a baby, at school and as a fully-fledged star, decorated the walls. Then Wang persuaded the provincial government to back his idea for a Bruce Lee museum in Shunde.

The two-floor museum opened yesterday inside a tea room donated by the province. Among those who turned out to give their seal of approval were Bruce Lee's sister, Lee Chau-yuen, Hong Kong radio personality and director of the hit movie *Shaolin Soccer*, Lee Lik-chi, and Cheung Pang, director of the kung fu star's *Enter the Dragon*, made in 1973. 'It's a dream come true,' says Wang, showing us around the museum. 'This is the result of the continued effort of all those who adore the martial artist.'

Wang says he hopes the museum will put Shunde on the tourist map, although the provincial government says that is not the motivating factor. 'Setting up a museum is not a money-making business – it won't yield much profit instantly,' says Zhou Hong, the deputy head of the Shunde Economics and Trade Bureau's Tourism Division. 'This is meant to be a cultural heritage for the public.'

Shunde's direct connection with Lee is rather limited. The Lee family left Juan'an a long time ago; Bruce Lee's father moved to Hong Kong as a teenager to pursue his opera career. Bruce Lee himself only stayed in

the village for a few days during a stop-off on a tour by his father's opera troupe when he was five. Li Ben-gen, who looks after Lee's restored ancestral home in Juan'an, says: 'My father told me it was quite a spectacle in the village – the whole troupe descended from a huge boat with a gleaming red mast. Lee Hoi-tsuen performed the traditional "lighting the lamp" ritual for his young son in the ancestral hall, which officially announced the boy as a member of the clan.' Today, up to 600 tourists flock to the home at weekends.

But while Shunde has honoured its nominal son, Hong Kong has failed to provide any memorial, to the chagrin of the star's fans in the SAR. The home where Bruce Lee spent his final years in Cumberland Road, Kowloon Tong, is now a 'love hotel'. The Urban Council approved a plan in early 1999 to include a 'Bruce Lee Memorial Gallery' at the Hong Kong Film Archive in Sai Wan Ho. But nothing happened. According to the spokesman of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, which inherited the project, a report concluded that 'it was not feasible to add a public gallery in the present building' because of safety concerns. The Department is now backing a proposal to set up the memorial gallery in the new cultural and entertainment area in the West Kowloon complex – the first phase of which will not be finished before 2008.

Wang is surprised by the SAR's sluggishness. 'More should be done by the authorities in Hong Kong – it was the place where Bruce Lee was brought up, educated and gained his fame,' he says. 'Bruce Lee's fans had been waiting too long, that is why I came up with the idea to start the project.' Zhou agrees, blaming bureaucratic dithering for the failure. 'More should be done by the Hong Kong authorities. You cannot expect everything to be done at a grass-roots level,' she says.

Wang would be happy to see more Bruce Lee memorials but he is content that he has done his bit for his hero, whom he considers an ambassador for Chinese culture. 'Bruce Lee may not be the most invincible fighter but he has done a lot to promote Chinese martial arts and national pride,' says Wang. During his acting career in Hollywood, Lee turned down stereotypical roles which he felt degraded Chinese people. 'Bruce Lee's kung fu has real substance; he is not like Jet Li or Jackie Chan who now make it a gymnastic performance or use it in comedy flicks,' says Wang.

When Beijing hosts the Olympic Games in 2008, martial arts will be included for the first time. 'I hope it will take kung fu a step further onto the international stage,' adds Wang. 'That will be the best gift for Bruce Lee.'

17. The first half of paragraph 1 (lines 1 – 8) is mainly about
- the relationship between kung fu and crime.
 - the triad problem in Shunde in the 1970s.
 - growing up in Shunde in the 1970s.
 - why Wang could not talk about his interest in the 1970s.
18. According to paragraphs 1 and 2, the discovery Wang made was that
- there were many rumours about Lee's ancestors.
 - there was a village called Juan'an.
 - Lee's family came from Shunde.
 - there was a tourist spot in Shunde.
19. According to paragraphs 1 and 2, which of the following statements are true?
- For a long time, some people believed that Lee came from Shunde, but they could not prove it.
 - Wang did some research to find out about Lee's background.
 - Wang met and interviewed Lee's father and grandfather.
 - People in other Guangdong cities argued that Lee came from these cities.
 - Wang was the first person to claim that Lee came from Guangdong.
- 1, 2 and 3
 - 1, 2 and 4
 - 3, 4 and 5
 - 2, 3 and 5
20. In line 29, 'back' means
- hide.
 - delay.
 - copy.
 - support.
21. In line 37, 'This' refers to
- the museum.
 - Lee's family.
 - a movie.
 - the martial artist.
22. Paragraphs 3 and 4 are about
- Wang's attempts to let people know more about Lee.
 - how much people admire Lee.
 - Lee's childhood in Shunde.
 - how popular the Bruce Lee Museum is.
23. According to Zhou Hong, the provincial government supported the museum because it
- felt the area needed more museums.
 - wanted to make Shunde into a tourist spot.
 - wanted to provide something cultural for the people.
 - thought it would make a lot of money quickly.
24. In line 55, 'me' refers to
- Li Ben-gen's father.
 - Bruce Lee.
 - Li Ben-gen.
 - Wang De-chao.
25. In line 64, 'chagrin' means
- happiness.
 - disappointment.
 - reluctance.
 - excitement.
26. According to paragraph 7, there is no Bruce Lee memorial in Hong Kong because
- there are not enough fans in Hong Kong.
 - there is already a museum in Shunde.
 - it has been difficult to find a suitable location.
 - the government did not want one.
27. In line 84, 'the failure' refers to
- not starting the Shunde project.
 - making Bruce Lee fans wait a long time.
 - not realising that Bruce Lee came from Hong Kong.
 - not setting up a Bruce Lee memorial in Hong Kong.
28. Wang thinks Lee is an ambassador because he
- was a great kung fu fighter.
 - has appeared in Hollywood movies.
 - has encouraged others to act in kung fu movies.
 - has made the Chinese feel proud of their culture.
29. Wang is how Jet Li and Jackie Chan use kung fu in their movies.
- shocked about
 - unhappy about
 - excited about
 - supportive of
30. Which of the following would be another suitable title for the article?
- Remembering Bruce Lee in China*
 - Hong Kong's Bruce Lee Gallery opens soon*
 - Bruce Lee brings kung fu to the Olympic Games*
 - Collecting Bruce Lee memorabilia*

PART 2 USAGE (1 mark each)

Decide which of the choices given below would best complete the article if inserted in the blanks. Mark your answers on the multiple-choice answer sheet. (18 marks)

Parents fail to teach saving habits

Most parents in Hong Kong are not (31) enough attention to the way children spend pocket money, according to researchers who say youngsters should (32) how to manage their personal finances. A survey by the Hong Kong Council of Early Childhood Education and Services highlighted the (33) of more than six out of ten parents to teach their children how to handle money, researchers said.

About 60 per cent of 1,682 primary students who were interviewed said their parents did not give them pocket money regularly. But (34) they asked for it, they (35) more than they needed, the youngsters said. Sixty-three per cent of the youngsters said their parents did not (36) how they used the money. Forty-three per cent (37) more than \$1,000 in lai-see during the Lunar New Year. Most youngsters did not know that lai-see is (38) to represent a blessing from their elders. More than 80 per cent of parents left it (39) to their children to decide what to do with the money. Seventy per cent of the children said they would save their lai-see money, (40) half of the respondents had already opened a bank account. The children (41) generally spent their money on snacks, stationery, toys and computer games.

The survey also found that 42 per cent did not appreciate the value of money, 13 per cent believed money allowed them to do (42) they liked and 36 per cent compared it (43) a daily necessity such as food or water.

Sansan Ching, Director of the Council, said Hong Kong parents had overlooked the (44) of passing on correct money management concepts (45) their children. Financial analyst Chan Mou-fung said Hong Kong should learn from the problems experienced in the United States (46) the 1970s and Japan in the 1980s. 'During (47) times, young people mismanaged their money (48) this caused serious social problems,' he said.

Source: Adapted from Chow Chung-yan, "Parents fail to teach youngsters saving habits, survey finds", *South China Morning Post*, 27 March, 2002.

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| 31. A. paying
B. focussing
C. putting
D. getting | 36. A. concern
B. care
C. look
D. think | 41. A. were surveyed
B. to be surveyed
C. surveyed
D. had been surveyed | 46. A. for
B. within
C. across
D. during |
| 32. A. be taught
B. have taught
C. be teaching
D. have been teaching | 37. A. awarded
B. earned
C. profited
D. received | 42. A. which
B. whichever
C. anything
D. some | 47. A. the
B. many
C. those
D. most |
| 33. A. failure
B. chance
C. success
D. weakness | 38. A. made
B. meant
C. aimed
D. needed | 43. A. on
B. about
C. by
D. to | 48. A. as
B. and
C. but
D. because |
| 34. A. ever
B. even
C. while
D. when | 39. A. up
B. behind
C. back
D. over | 44. A. need
B. importance
C. reason
D. explanation | |
| 35. A. would have been given
B. are being given
C. were given
D. will be given | 40. A. but
B. while
C. instead
D. because | 45. A. to
B. by
C. with
D. of | |

The short descriptions below, A – N, are from the back covers of books. Match them to the correct book titles, 49 – 60. You can use each letter ONCE only. One of the descriptions need not be used. One has been done for you as an example. (12 marks)

A	An in-depth study of the causes of breakdowns in relationships and marriages with some tips on how to deal with the emotional pain that results.
B	A selection of some of today's finest travel writers describe their least enjoyable trips to some of the most difficult parts of the world. Experience danger, hardships and loneliness from the comfort of your armchair.
C	A shocking and revealing study of public transport accident statistics in Southeast Asia.
D	When a nightclub owner is found dead on Lady Street, Inspector Lee suspects a local triad gang may be responsible. But is there something more to the case than meets the eye?
E	Geoffrey Moorhouse rides on camel-back across the sands of the Sahara from Mauritania to Egypt. Share his impressions of the beautiful landscapes, the fascinating people and the frightening weather in this travel classic.
F	Tired of dieting and denying yourself the sweet things of life? World-respected chef Ollie James provides you with a hundred recipes guaranteed to raise your blood sugar level, or at the very least add a few inches to your waistline! Among the favourites are: Death by Chocolate, New York Cheesecake Knockout and Heart Attack Hot Toffee Pie!
G	Everyone dreams of a holiday romance, but few are lucky enough to have one. For Sally and Steve, on holiday after graduating, a chance meeting in Hawaii rapidly changes their lives. You won't be able to resist this heart-warming story of marriage and magical beaches.
H	In order to enjoy travelling, the first thing you need is peace of mind. This book provides comprehensive information on how to eat healthily, how to protect your belongings, how to avoid being cheated, and how to cope with all the other hassles of being on the road.
I	Get to know all the latest accessories with this colourful catalogue of what's cool on the concrete. Whether you're into roller-blades, skateboards or scooters, it's all here: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where to buy the gear. • How to keep it in top condition. • How to use it safely on the streets.

J	Want to look your best for your new boyfriend / girlfriend? How about that party on Saturday night? How are you going to get yourself noticed? Packed with advice for fashion-conscious youngsters.
K	Sammy Wong had never taken much notice of new girl Crystal Chan, but when she rescues him from a gang of bullies in the playground, he begins to realise that there's more to life than fighting, football and comic-books.
L	Everyone knows about the existence of secret societies in Hong Kong, but what are their origins? Are they really as bad as everyone says they are? What can the police do to curb their criminal activities? These and many more questions are answered in this in-depth exposé.
M	Many cultures have influenced the unique Hawaiian cuisine. A fusion of native, Japanese and American dishes have tantalised the taste-buds of millions of tourists since the islands became a top holiday destination. Read all about them here.
N	The pace of life in Hong Kong makes fast food a popular option at mealtimes. But what impact will the burgers and rice boxes we wolf down at lunchtime have on our health in the future? Obesity, heart disease and premature death, according to the latest research outlined in this book.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| a. <i>Murder Mystery</i> | <u> D </u> |
| 49. <i>Hawaiian Delights</i> | <u> </u> |
| 50. <i>Worst Journeys</i> | <u> </u> |
| 51. <i>Love in Paradise</i> | <u> </u> |
| 52. <i>The Take-away Time-bomb</i> | <u> </u> |
| 53. <i>A School Affair</i> | <u> </u> |
| 54. <i>Love Hurts</i> | <u> </u> |
| 55. <i>The Backpacker's Guide to Safety</i> | <u> </u> |
| 56. <i>Death on the Roads</i> | <u> </u> |
| 57. <i>Hot Tips for Trendy Teens</i> | <u> </u> |
| 58. <i>The Rise of Triads</i> | <u> </u> |
| 59. <i>Deadly Desserts</i> | <u> </u> |
| 60. <i>Teenage Speedsters</i> | <u> </u> |

Marks:

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Fill in each blank in the article below with ONE word which best completes the meaning. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first two have been done for you as examples. (20 marks)

Welcome to Singapore Changi Airport

This leaflet (a) you about the facilities and services (b) at our world-class airport. Here at Changi we (61) something for everyone. Whether you want to relax, do a bit of shopping, call home, get (62) exercise or explore the wonderful sights of Singapore, you (63) bound to find something to suit you. We hope that you will enjoy your time at the airport.

Facilities

Inter-Terminal Transport

The Skytrain links Terminals 1 and 2 from 6 am to 1:30 am. The ride (64) less than two minutes (65) is free. During non-operational hours you (66) use the travellers to move between the two terminals.

Open Air Areas

For some fresh air, visit our Heliconia Garden or Cactus Garden. (67) award-winning Cactus Garden is the first of its kind in an international airport and showcases diverse plants from (68) over the world. For those of you who want to cool (69), stroll along to the swimming pool near the Transit Hotel.

Smoking Areas

Smoking is (70) inside the terminals. (71), if you wish to smoke, (72) have designated outdoor smoking areas.

a. tells

b. available

61. _____

62. _____

63. _____

64. _____

65. _____

66. _____

67. _____

68. _____

69. _____

70. _____

71. _____

72. _____

Services

Free Singapore Tour

If you are in transit and (73) more than five hours before your connecting flight, you can register (74) a free sightseeing tour. This two-and-a-half-hour tour covers the city and includes a bumboat ride on the Singapore River. There are eight tours per day. The (75) tour is at 10 am and the others leave on the hour from 1 pm to 7 pm.

Left Baggage

The Left Baggage Counter is located in the Departure Hall and allows you to leave your luggage (76) you leave the airport. Rates for the first 24 hours range from S\$1 to S\$9 (77) on the size. (78) operates from 7 am to 10:30 pm daily.

Special Services

Special facilities (79) as ramps and user-friendly lifts cater to the needs of (80) handicapped and elderly.

For rental of wheelchairs, please contact the Medical Centre on 543 1118.

73. _____

74. _____

75. _____

76. _____

77. _____

78. _____

79. _____

80. _____

Source: Adapted from a leaflet for visitors, Changi International Airport, Singapore, 2002.

Marks:

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Both Chris and Pat went to France for a holiday last year, but at different times. Chris did not like it at all, while Pat had a wonderful time. Below are the letters they wrote to their mother. Letter 2 has some missing words. Read Letter 1 and then fill in the blanks to make Letter 2 opposite in meaning. You should make sure your answers are grammatically correct. Use only ONE word for each blank. One has been done for you as an example. (16 marks)

Letter 1

Dear Mum,

I don't think we've ever had such an awful holiday. We've been here for three days now and everything seems to have gone wrong so far.

We were late leaving the flat and on the way to the airport, we got stuck in a traffic jam. We arrived at the airport only an hour before the flight was supposed to leave but we had to queue up for over half an hour to check in our luggage. By this time it was so late that we didn't even have enough time to look in the shops or to buy something to drink.

The plane was full so it felt very cramped, which meant that all of us were really uncomfortable. There was only one film to watch and I didn't manage to get any sleep at all. By the time we arrived in France, I felt exhausted.

We were disappointed that no one came to meet us at the airport even though we'd made reservations for transport. As a result, we had to pay for a taxi to the hotel. We got there at 4 a.m. and had to wait for ages before someone showed us to our room.

Letter 2

Dear Mum,

I think this is the (81) _____ holiday we've ever had. We arrived here three days ago and so far (82) _____ has gone according to plan.

We left home quite (83) _____ and, because the roads to the airport were clear, we got to the airport much (84) _____ than we'd expected. To our delight, there weren't any long queues, so we had plenty of time on our hands: we did some (85) _____ and also had a drink before getting on the plane.

On the plane we had a lot of (86) _____ to ourselves so all of us felt very (87) _____ indeed. There was a wide choice of different in-flight entertainment and I even managed to have a good (88) _____. So, when we landed in France, I felt completely rested.

We were surprised to be picked up from the airport and given a (89) _____ ride to the hotel, although we hadn't booked it. At the hotel, several members of staff welcomed us and took us to our room (a) immediately.

They've given us a tiny room at the back of the hotel which hasn't been decorated for years and it looks very dirty. Also, because it's peak season, the hotel is really busy and everything in the shops is extremely expensive. However, the worst thing about the holiday is the weather. It's freezing cold and it hasn't stopped raining since we arrived.

How can I survive another ten days here?
I'm feeling homesick already!

See you soon!

Chris

We've got a (90) _____ room right at the (91) _____ of the hotel. It looks as if it has recently been (92) _____ and is very clean. Because we decided to come during the off-peak season, the hotel is very quiet and things are much (93) _____ than at other times of the year. The thing I like (94) _____ about the holiday is the weather. It's really warm and there hasn't been any (95) _____ since we got here.

We still have ten wonderful days of the holiday left! I don't (96) _____ home at all!

See you soon!

Pat

Marks:

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END OF PAPER

TOTAL:

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Paper 2 Suggested Answers

Part 1 Reading Comprehension

- | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1. C (75) | 7. B (57) | 13. D (75) | 19. B (63) | 25. B (50) |
| 2. B (60) | 8. B (78) | 14. A (71) | 20. D (81) | 26. C (75) |
| 3. D (41) | 9. A (53) | 15. C (47) | 21. A (69) | 27. D (62) |
| 4. A (73) | 10. B (74) | 16. C (44) | 22. A (72) | 28. D (70) |
| 5. C (70) | 11. D (53) | 17. D (48) | 23. C (71) | 29. B (62) |
| 6. A (72) | 12. D (62) | 18. C (63) | 24. C (84) | 30. A (36) |

Part 2 Usage

Multiple Choice Cloze

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 31. A (80) | 36. B (56) | 41. C (31) | 46. D (62) |
| 32. A (64) | 37. D (79) | 42. C (79) | 47. C (51) |
| 33. A (50) | 38. B (40) | 43. D (41) | 48. B (65) |
| 34. D (68) | 39. * | 44. B (74) | |
| 35. C (40) | 40. B (41) | 45. A (63) | |

Matching

- | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 49. M | 53. K | 57. J |
| 50. B | 54. A | 58. L |
| 51. G | 55. H | 59. F |
| 52. N | 56. C | 60. I |

* This item was deleted.

Note: Figures in brackets indicate the percentages of candidates choosing the correct answers.

General note on item deletion

It is normal for the HKEAA to delete a small number of items from its multiple-choice question papers if they prove unsatisfactory. In practice, there are a number of reasons why this is considered necessary. By far the most common reason for deleting an item is that the item fails to discriminate between weak and able candidates – in other words, the majority of the candidates involved had to rely on guesswork in answering that question. If such an item is retained, the measurement process is rendered less effective. Where items have been deleted in the live papers, they are still included in this series of publications. They are indicated as deleted items. Such items may be discussed in the corresponding examination reports.

Open cloze

61. have / provide
62. some
63. are
64. lasts / is / takes
65. and
66. can / may
67. Our / This / The
68. all
69. down / off
70. forbidden / prohibited / banned
71. However / Nevertheless / Therefore / So
72. we
73. have
74. for / on
75. first / earliest
76. if / when
77. depending
78. It
79. such
80. the

Rewriting

81. best / greatest
82. everything
83. early
84. earlier / sooner / quicker
85. shopping
86. room / space
87. comfortable
88. sleep / rest
89. free
90. big / huge / large
91. front
92. decorated / painted / re-decorated
93. cheaper
94. most / best
95. rain
96. miss