

2011-CE
ENG LANG

PAPER 1A

HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION 2011

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1A

Question-Answer Book

8.30 am – 9.30 am (1 hour)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. After the announcement of the start of the examination, you should first write your Candidate Number on Page 1 and stick a barcode label in the spaces provided on Pages 1, 3 and 5.
2. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. All the reading passages are in a separate booklet. Write your answers clearly and neatly in the spaces provided in this Question-Answer Book. You are advised to use a pencil to write your answers. **Answers written in the margins will not be marked.**
4. For multiple-choice questions, blacken the appropriate circle with a pencil. Wrong marks must be completely erased with a clean rubber. Mark only **ONE** answer to each question. Two or more answers will score **NO MARKS**. You must mark the answers clearly. You will lose marks, if the answers cannot be captured.
5. **DO NOT** take away the Reading Passages booklet. It will be collected separately at the end of the examination.
6. Supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number, fill in the question number and stick a barcode label on each sheet and fasten them with string **INSIDE** this Question-Answer Book.
7. No extra time will be given to candidates for sticking on the barcode labels or filling in the question number boxes after the 'Time is up' announcement.

Please stick the barcode label here.

Candidate Number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

There are 33 questions in this paper. Each question carries ONE mark unless otherwise stated.

Part 1 (21 marks)

Answer the following questions using information from the text on page 2 of the Reading Passages booklet. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. Complete the following table. Write **ONE** word in each blank. The first two have been done as examples. (11 marks)

Name	Places he / she plans to visit	Activities he / she will do there	Month of travel
• Laura	• <u>Australia</u>	X	• <u>April</u>
• _____	• Ghana • South Africa • _____ • Australia	X	• January
• Harry	• _____ • _____ • _____	• Volunteering in a game reserve • _____ • _____	• February
• _____	• _____ • Australia • New Zealand	• Volunteer Project	• _____
• _____	• Australia	X	• July

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

2. Name two people who want to take a Christian gap year in Africa. (2 marks)

3. Give the names of three organizations which help people arrange their gap year. (3 marks)

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Please stick the barcode label here.

4. Who would be the best person to travel with Laura?

(5 marks)

Name: _____

Give 4 reasons why. Two reasons have been given as examples:

- Would like to travel with someone *(example)*
- Similar age *(example)*
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Part 2 (28 marks)

Answer the following questions using information from the text on page 3 of the Reading Passages booklet. Write your answers in the spaces provided. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

5. What does 'there' refer to in line 2?

6. In line 3, Heather's wake-up call is described as 'unusual'. What makes it 'unusual'?

7. In paragraph 2, find a phrase which shows that Heather doesn't mind living close to lots of animals.

8. Choose the best alternative for 'jostle' in line 9.

- A. shout
- B. walk
- C. press
- D. push

A B C D

9. How does Heather travel to work?

- A. by bus
- B. on foot
- C. by pick-up truck

A B C

10. Decide whether the following statements are true, false or not mentioned in the text. Tick (✓) the appropriate Answers column. Write **ONE** tick only for each statement. For True and False statements, please also give the paragraph number in the Paragraph Number column to indicate where the information can be found. The first one has been done as an example. (4 marks)

Statement	Answers			Paragraph Number
	True	False	Not Mentioned	
i. Nigeria has the highest HIV and AIDS infection rate in the world.		✓		1
ii. Heather has a shower before work every morning.				
iii. Heather says good morning to a lot of people on the way to work.				
iv. Halimat's husband was in a car crash.				
v. Many Nigerians go to church or to the mosque in the evening.				

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

11. Which two different groups in the community does Heather's organization help? (2 marks)

12. Look at the word 'nature' in line 20. Now look at the dictionary entry for 'nature' below. Which meaning corresponds to the meaning in line 20? Write the correct number in the box provided.

nature 1. The world of living things and the outdoors: *the beauties of nature*. 2. The nature of something is its basic quality, character or kind: *Mr Smith did not comment on the nature of the issues being discussed*. 3. Someone's nature is the character which they show by the way they behave: *John trusted people. That was his nature*. 4. A simple life without the conveniences of civilization: *a return to nature*. 5. If something is second nature, it is so familiar that you can do it easily: *I used to hate computers, but using them is second nature to me now*.

12.

13. In which city did Heather live before she went to Lagos?

14. In paragraph 7, find a phrase which shows that Heather admires her workmates in Lagos.

15. What do the children do that shows that they enjoy the kids' club?

16. Why does it take Heather over one hour to walk home?

- A. She goes to church on the way back.
- B. She stops to chat to people.
- C. She purchases food on the way home.
- D. She stops to listen to hip hop.

A B C D

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

17. In line 38, why does Heather mention 'HK\$1000 bottles of champagne'?

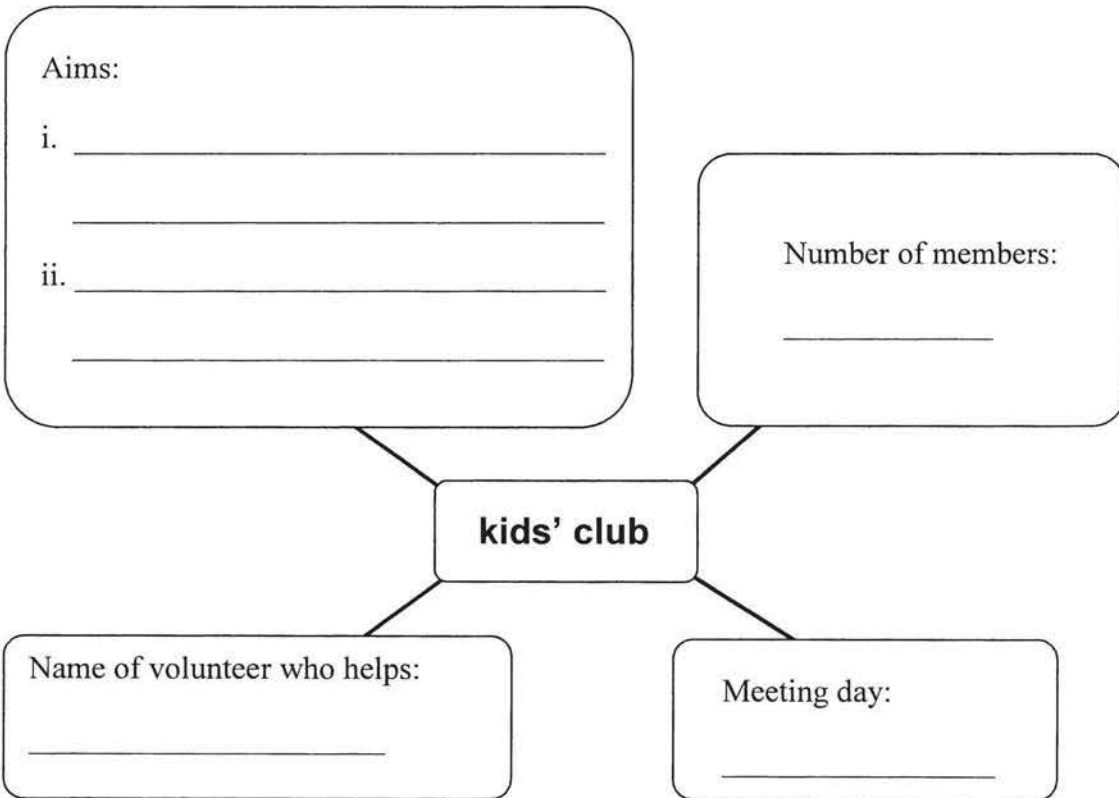
18. In line 41, Heather writes, 'I have access to both worlds.' What does she mean by both worlds?

- A. Rich and poor
- B. Western and volunteer
- C. Africa and Europe
- D. Paid work and volunteer work

A B C D

19. Fill in the following information about the kids' club.

(5 marks)



Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

20. In which of the following areas will Heather improve during her time in Nigeria? If your answer is YES, give a reason. An example has been done for you. (4 marks)

	YES or NO	Reason
Working with children	Yes	Because there is a kids' club and Heather sees all of the work first hand.
Managing people		
Computer skills		
First aid skills		
Organizing / running events		

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

21. Choose the most suitable title for the text.

- A. Nigeria: the widening gap between rich and poor
- B. English girl struggles to adapt to life as a charity worker
- C. Youth volunteer sets up charity in Lagos
- D. A day in the life of Heather Alcock: youth volunteer, Nigeria

A B C D

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Part 3 (28 marks)

Answer the following questions using information from the text on page 4 of the Reading Passages booklet. Write your answers in the spaces provided. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

22. Find two words in paragraph 1 which have the same meaning as 'aims' in line 5. (2 marks)

23. Which of the following could replace 'get a breather' in line 6?

- A. take a deep breath
- B. have a break
- C. relax
- D. get a good grade

A B C D

24. Who does 'they' refer to in line 10?

25. What does 'one' refer to in line 11?

26. Look at the word 'initiative' in line 13. Now look at the dictionary entry for 'initiative' below. Which meaning corresponds to the meaning in line 13? Write the correct number in the box provided.

initiative **1.** A plan or activity that is done to solve a problem or improve a situation: *a new government initiative to reduce crime.* **2.** If you have or take the initiative, you are in a position to control a situation and decide what to do next: *Why don't you take the initiative and ask him out?* **3.** The ability to make decisions and do things without needing to be told what to do: *Although she was quite young, she showed a lot of initiative and was promoted to manager after a year.* **4.** The power or opportunity to win an advantage: *to seize/take/lose the initiative.*

26.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

27. In paragraphs 2 and 5, find the most appropriate example of how the following people could spend their gap year. (4 marks)

Manfred

After my gap year I am going to teacher training college. I want to go overseas for my gap year and see some of the world. I would really like to do something meaningful, such as helping people who are less fortunate than I am.

Senny

I am really keen to try something new during my gap year. I would like to go to a different country and do some kind of voluntary work, perhaps with animals.

Wilson

I would like to spend my gap year in a different country doing something useful and maybe even learning a new skill. I have already been accepted to study structural engineering at university next year.

Kim

I hope to study social work at university. During my gap year I want to do something that will give me some experience in this area. I really need to see if I can handle it!

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Manfred: _____

Senny: _____

Kim: _____

Wilson: _____

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

28. What does 'there' refer to in line 17?

29. Read paragraphs 3 and 4 and complete the notes on the benefits of taking a gap year. Use **ONE** word only for each blank. Note that the most suitable word may or may not appear in the text. Make sure that your answers are grammatically correct. (6 marks)

i) **Gives you time to think and make important decisions:**

- What you hope to do in the _____.
- What you want to _____.

ii) **Reduced stress levels:**

- No need to worry about _____ for a university place in your last year of school.
- Less pressure when the _____ come out.

Benefits of taking a gap year

iii) **A way to get into a better university:**

- If you do something _____ during your gap year, you may get into a university which has previously said _____.

30. Choose the most appropriate alternative for 'otherwise' in line 32.

- A. If you can't
- B. If you aren't
- C. If you can
- D. If you do

A B C D

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

31. Based on the information in the text, give **THREE** reasons why many parents may not want their children to take a gap year. Give the paragraph number where you found the information. (3 marks)

Reason	Paragraph Number

32. Read paragraphs 7 and 8 and complete the email which Winston wrote to his friend Maurice about the article. Use **ONE** word only for each blank. Note that the most suitable word may or may not appear in the text. Make sure that your answers are grammatically correct. (6 marks)

From :	Winston Lee	Sent:	Thursday 5/5/2011 3:55 PM
To:	Maurice Tang		
Subject:	What I've been reading		

Dear Maurice

I read an article which might be of interest to you. It said that the majority of students who have a _____ from student life return to university feeling more _____. The article also says, though, that students should remember that they might consider _____ their gap year, if they don't have any plans which really _____ them. Apparently, some find that it is only after they have experienced _____ life that they _____ their gap year fully.

Speak to you about this soon.

Winston

33. Choose the most suitable title for the text.

- A. Gap year: worries you may have.
- B. Gap year: activities you can do.
- C. Gap year: to do it or not?
- D. Gap year: persuade your parents.

A B C D

END OF PAPER

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *Examination Report and Question Papers* published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

2011-CE
ENG LANG

PAPER 1A
RP

HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION 2011

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1A

Reading Passages

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write all your answers in the Question-Answer Book.
2. **DO NOT** take away this booklet. It will be collected separately at the end of the examination.
3. **DO NOT** write any answers in this booklet as they will not be marked.

Part 1

Read the postings below. They have been taken from an online forum for young people who plan to have a gap year, that is, a break from studying after they finish school and before they go to university or college. Answer questions 1-4 on pages 2 and 3 of the Question-Answer Book. (21 marks)

<p>[1] Posted: Tues. May 3, 2011 10:28pm</p> <p>Hello, I'm Laura. I'm planning to take a gap year in 2012. I'm thinking of leaving for Australia in April but am open to ideas and places. I'll be 19 so any girls around that sort of age and up for a laugh, please reply.</p> <p>Love Laura x</p>
<p>[2] Posted: Mon. April 18, 2011 7:18pm</p> <p>Hello, I am from America and I am looking at arranging my gap year with "Oysterworld". They seem like a relatively new company, but, basically, I want to make sure that they are reputable. Has anyone heard of them and if so, are they ok? Also, is The Lonely Planet the best guide book to use when traveling? I would greatly appreciate any help.</p> <p>Amelia</p>
<p>[3] Posted: Fri. April 15, 2011 8:01pm</p> <p>Hiya, I want to take a gap year probably to Africa and was wondering whether anyone knew of any good Christian gap organizations. Does anyone know about any? Kevin</p> <p>► Hi Kevin, I want to do exactly the same thing! I'm looking at Oasis Trust - check it out, it looks excellent! There are so many opportunities to do things in all sorts of places..... Judy</p>
<p>[4] Posted: Mon. April 11, 2011 9:48am</p> <p>Hi my name is Daniel, I'm 18 years old and am planning a gap year starting in January. Currently I am planning to go to Ghana then South Africa then Borneo and finish in Australia. I am primarily using a company called Real Gap. Any personal experiences of this company would be useful or any advice or experiences from similar firms that you think may be better would be fantastic. All help is welcome. Thanks ☺</p>
<p>[5] Posted: Fri. April 8, 2011 3:51pm</p> <p>Hi! I'm just planning my gap year and I'm wondering if anyone has done anything similar and has any tips? I'm going to Africa for 4 weeks at the end of Feb next year, volunteering in a game reserve. After that I'm going to Australia for a few months to visit family there. I will then go to Brazil for 2 weeks to surf in Sao Paulo. Appreciate any replies. Thanks!</p> <p>Harry</p>
<p>[6] Posted: Mon. April 4, 2011 3:16pm</p> <p>Hey! I'm 18, planning to travel alone and hoping to leave next Feb to go and do a two-month volunteer project in Mexico. Then I plan to go to Australia to travel up the east coast then out to New Zealand. Is anyone else doing anything similar around this time? I wouldn't mind meeting up and travelling together for a while..... I'm a fun-loving person! Also, does anyone have tips on what to do or what not to do? Thanks.</p> <p>Jenny</p>
<p>[7] Posted: Wed. March 30, 2011 9:41pm</p> <p>Hi all, I'm off to Australia in July on a year's working holiday visa. I was wondering could anybody tell me what the best way of setting up a bank account is? Should I do it here, say with Barclays, in the UK before I go or just do it when I'm out there? Any info would be greatly appreciated!</p> <p>Jedboy</p>

Part 2

Read the following text and answer questions 5-21 on pages 4-7 of the Question-Answer Book. (28 marks)

- 1 [1] Nigeria has the second highest HIV and AIDS infection rate in the world. That's why Youth for Development volunteer Heather Alcock is there, working with a community organization in Lagos that provides care and support for people affected by AIDS. Here, Heather describes a typical day, from her unusual wake-up call and commute to work, to the huge inequality she witnesses on a day to day basis.
- 5 [2] **Mornings – Lagos style**
I'm woken daily by the call to prayer at 5am, followed swiftly by the cockerels. As a city girl I wasn't really prepared for living with so many animals, especially in Lagos, but it's a pleasant surprise. A cold shower will follow if there has been electricity during the night, otherwise it's off to work.
- 10 [3] I live just 20 minutes from my office, so luckily don't have to jostle for a space on one of Lagos's many yellow smog-emitting buses. Instead, I can stroll through my housing estate, taking care to greet all the shopkeepers and market traders that I know along the way. Nigerians are a friendly bunch and greetings are very important so to miss someone out would cause offence! With any luck I'll pick up some anchara (beancakes) or fresh fruit along the way for lunch.
- [4] **Working in the community**
15 I am working with a small community based organization, which focuses on care and support for people living with AIDS. It also helps disadvantaged children in the community. The organization works to support children who are out of school and runs a regular kids' club, which aims to teach children how to overcome obstacles, while also bringing them together to have fun.
- 20 [5] I have been working with the organization to help with the management of their local volunteers. But, due to the small nature of the project I have really had an opportunity to see all of their work first hand. After spending my days firing off emails from behind a desk in London, I feel really privileged to be able to witness community development work at a grassroots level.
- 25 [6] A typical day might involve holding meetings with volunteers and arranging awareness events with our partners in the community. I also liaise with the local government and assist colleagues in producing reports for donors.
- [7] **Colleagues**
Many of the people that we work with are truly inspirational. Halimat, one of our volunteers, lost all her possessions in a fire five years ago. With no insurance or social security system to rely on, she and her husband had to start again from scratch. Last year her husband died, leaving her to raise five children alone. She is the secretary of our savings and loans association, and she herself has recently taken a loan of HK\$250 to aid her stationery business. Halimat also volunteers to run our kids' club, which now has over 80 keen members. Some are so excited that on a Sunday afternoon they arrive an hour early!
- 30 [8] My walk home can take over an hour as I carefully select my vegetables for dinner, often to the amusement of the traders. If there is light then, Nigerian hip hop blasts out across the estate, and people gather before going to evening services at the many churches and mosques.
- 35 [9] **A tale of two cities**
Lagos is a vibrant, bustling city full of energy and life. It has some of the greatest contrasts I've ever seen, and almost sickening levels of inequality: Lagos's elite sip HK\$1000 bottles of champagne whilst millions of people are surviving on one dollar a day living a hand-to-mouth existence. Huge 4x4s splash mud and sewage over street children and hawkers struggling to sell their produce.
- 40 [10] As a westerner, or more specifically, a volunteer, I have access to both worlds. At times I have found this hard to reconcile. However, experiencing both sides has undoubtedly increased my understanding of this diverse and dynamic country. Most importantly it has provided plenty of opportunities for fundraising, networking and making a sustainable difference!

Part 3

Read the following text and answer questions 22-33 on pages 8-11 of the Question-Answer Book. (28 marks)

- 1 [1] A gap year is a welcome break for many students but can be frustrating to others. It may indeed be a way to recharge your batteries or to explore activities near home that you have never had time to experience before. However, students with lofty gap-year plans have been known to end up sitting in front of the television for a year. Thus, before deciding on a year off before university, it's important to think about your goals and to make
- 5 sure you spend your time in an engaging way that meets these aims. For instance, if one of your objectives is to get a breather from classrooms, tests and assignments, a gap year can be a great way to do that. Whether you're planning to work full time, travel or take part in a volunteer program, it's important to have focus. We advise you to come up with a plan, at least a preliminary one, before you commit to the year off.
- [2] If you have no clue about what to do, consider one of the organizations that provides gap-year solutions. Some charge a fee for this advice, and the programs they recommend can be costly too, so keep that in mind as you proceed. The benefit most often publicized by these kinds of organizations is a long term one: employers do seem to value those candidates who have taken this option. They see it as showing an interest in the non-academic side of life and a sign of initiative. However, that assumes that you spend the time doing something useful such as joining a project to study coral reefs, helping in a wildlife sanctuary or learning a new language. In other words
- 15 something other than lounging around the house!
- [3] A gap year might also be the right option if you're not completely sure what you want to do at university, or if you don't even know if you want to go there at all. Taking a gap year will buy you time and give you a chance to think about what you want to do with your life or what you want to study. Plus, you won't have to worry about university applications during your final year of A-Levels, and the stress levels when the results are released will
- 20 be much reduced!
- [4] Universities almost without exception now look favourably on gap-year students. In fact, some students actually view a gap year as a way to get into a better university. Typically, this is not an effective strategy as most universities base their decisions primarily on academic factors, but there are stories about applicants whose gap-year efforts were sufficiently impressive that they led to acceptances at institutions that had already said no once before.
- 25 [5] If you are hoping that your gap year will lead to better university options, be sure to choose your activities carefully so that admissions people regard your time away as worthwhile or even unique. For instance, if your applications already point to a particular passion, then perhaps you can take that interest to the next level. Consider doing voluntary work in a shelter for victims of domestic violence, helping out in a school in a developing country or even joining a team to rebuild villages destroyed by natural disasters.
- 30 [6] All this sounds good, but you do have to ask yourself one very hard question: will you be able to start studying again? Can you keep your level of maths/physics or whatever you plan to study up to scratch? Otherwise you will find it very hard to start at uni without falling behind. You may develop other interests during your year away and not feel motivated to go back to student life.
- [7] On the other hand, many students who take time off before uni find that the break from academics enables them to return to the classroom the following year with increased focus and even maturity. Most gappers who take a year off of the academic treadmill are eager to climb back on when the time comes.
- 35 [8] Finally, keep in mind that, if you don't have any gap-year plans that truly excite you, then you might want to postpone your break until you've had a year or two of university under your belt. Some students feel they must have some time away at the end of high school, while others find that they value their gap year more only after they've had a taste of university.
- 40

END OF READING PASSAGES

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *Examination Report and Question Papers* published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.