

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1

### PART B1

#### Reading Passages

8:30 am – 10:00 am (1½ hours)  
(for both Parts A and B)

#### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Refer to the General Instructions on Page 1 of the Reading Passages booklet for Part A.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR PART B1

- (1) The Question-Answer Book for Part B1 is inserted in this Reading Passages booklet.
- (2) Candidates who choose Part B1 should attempt all questions in this part. Each question carries ONE mark unless otherwise stated.
- (3) Hand in only ONE Question-Answer Book for Part B, either B1 or B2, and fasten it with the Question-Answer Book for Part A using the green tag provided.


## PART B1

Read Texts 2-4 and answer questions 19-41 in the Question-Answer Book for Part B1.

### Text 2

HONG KONG PUBLIC LIBRARIES	Explore Collections	Library Activities	Locate Libraries	About HKPL
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[Home](#) > Library Activities



**[1] Fun at Central Library - Orienteering Activity with 'Reading Journey' Passports**  
Get your passport on the 1/F while stocks last. Follow the instructions to collect stamps at designated checkpoints around our wonderful Central Library. You can pick up a souvenir from the 4/F if you complete your reading journey.

**[2] Little Avid Readers**  
Dear kids, if you love reading, please come into the wonderful library world. Local authors, librarians and teachers will read their favourite stories to you. Storytelling sessions at local libraries for children aged 6-10, every Friday. (Quota 25 children)

**[3] My Pop-up Library**  
Hong Kong Public Library's first 'Pop-up Library' will be at Leung Kung Ho School for one day only on April 21 (Saturday) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring your phone to experience a different kind of library service including taking a happy selfie, recommending favourite books on social media and doing online quizzes. Most regular library services are also available, so visitors can borrow books and apply for a public library card. All are welcome to enjoy the event.

### Text 3

#### Keep Hong Kong libraries open until late night to halt worrying decline in 'culture of reading', advisor urges

- 1 [1] Connie Lau Yin-hing, from the Office of the Ombudsman, asked why the government had been spending extra money to buy a targeted 700,000 new items a year for public libraries, but had been  
5 throwing away as waste paper hundreds of thousands of old materials rather than donating them to charity or holding book sales. Lau also said the resources stocked by public libraries had increased 17 per cent over the last eight years, but the number  
10 of items the public borrowed dropped by more than 18 per cent.
- [2] Speaking on a radio show on Wednesday, Roy Kwong Chun-yu, advisory committee member on Hong Kong Public Libraries, said those findings  
15 revealed a worrying decline in the city's 'culture of reading'. 'It saddened me to hear that hundreds of thousands of books were thrown away every year, and I think there are many reasons why fewer books  
20 were borrowed in recent years,' Kwong said. 'One of those reasons is that we don't have a culture of night libraries, since opening hours are the same as many people's working hours.' The committee Kwong sits on is tasked with formulating strategies to develop library facilities and services.
- 25 [3] Hong Kong Central Library in Causeway Bay usually opens from 10am to 9pm, but most public libraries close at 7pm or 8pm, with some closing at 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. In comparison, most public libraries in Singapore close at 9pm, while  
30 some 'intelligent libraries' – autonomous or unmanned facilities – in Taipei are open until midnight.
- [4] 'Our public libraries should also be open until  
35 11pm or midnight... so that residents can borrow or return a book or two after their day of work,' Kwong

said. He also advised the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), which runs the public libraries system, to organise more activities to help children realise that reading at libraries can be fun.

- 40 [5] Lau said the government had failed to explain clearly the rationale behind its annual buying target of 700,000 items, and Kwong agreed. 'It's unreasonable for libraries to follow a target set in the 1990s. The quality of procurement is more  
45 important than the quantity.'

#### Text 4

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR | For Hong Kong children, reading culture has to begin at home

- 1 [1] At first glance, the fact that Hong Kong has slipped to third place in an international reading literacy ranking may seem to be cause for concern ('Hong Kong slips to third place in reading literacy  
5 ranking, behind Russia and Singapore', December 6). But a more careful look at the results reveals that Hong Kong pupils are still among the best readers across the globe.

- 10 [2] Undeniably, with the advancement of technology and easy internet access, reading has taken a back seat to online activities. Access to books at home, in school and in the community, coupled with capitalising on technology, can reignite the passion for reading among youngsters.

- 15 [3] Parents may place books around the home, even in the bathroom. Bedtime reading with kids may seem like a luxury for busy parents, but doing so not only develops literacy levels, but also strengthens the parent-child bond. With books placed at their  
20 bedside, children can look forward to nightly adventures.

- [4] At school, self-service 'street libraries' could be set up on different floors and around campus to make books more accessible to students. These  
25 libraries could be given unique, creative names so that students can recall their locations with greater

[6] Some residents phoned in to the radio show on Wednesday to complain about the quality of public library services. A man surnamed Wong said he had often been disturbed in libraries by noisy school children and complained that libraries closed too early at the weekend.

- 50 [7] An LCSD spokeswoman said it welcomed 'any suggestions and views from the public and stakeholders' and would study them carefully.

- ease. If pupils have easy access to books at school, they will be more likely to borrow them. Assigning roles of 'reading ambassadors' would also help to  
30 foster a reading culture.

- [5] In the community, youngsters should be encouraged to make good use of the new vending machine-style book station at Sai Wan Ho. They should also join the Reading Programme for  
35 Children and Youth organised by Hong Kong Public Libraries, as avid readers can win prizes and awards under the scheme. Motivation of this kind can surely boost interest in reading.

- [6] Finally, technology does not have to be an enemy to reading; it can promote the culture if used appropriately. A number of newspaper apps are available for download on the internet. Once these are installed on children's phones, they will be more likely to peruse news and current affairs. Also, e-  
45 books might completely replace paperbacks in the future and, for tech-savvy millennials, e-books might hold more appeal because of their accompanying features. Let them jump on the e-book bandwagon all they want, if it gets them  
50 reading.

Chris Wong, Shatin

#### END OF READING PASSAGES

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