



ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1

PART A

Reading Passages

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

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) There are two parts (A and B) in this paper. All candidates should attempt Part A. In Part B, you should attempt either Part B1 (easier section) OR Part B2 (more difficult section). Candidates attempting Parts A and B2 will be able to attain the full range of levels, while Level 4 will be the highest level attainable for candidates attempting Parts A and B1.
- (2) After the announcement of the start of the examination, you should first write your Candidate Number and stick barcode labels in the spaces provided on the appropriate pages of the Part A Question-Answer Book and the Part B Question-Answer Book which you are going to attempt.
- (3) Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Question-Answer Books. Answers written in the margins will not be marked.
- (4) For multiple-choice questions, you are advised to blacken the appropriate circle with a pencil so that wrong marks can be completely erased with a clean rubber. Mark only **ONE** answer to each question. Two or more answers will score **NO MARKS**.
- (5) Supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Use separate supplementary answer sheets for Part A and Part B. Write your Candidate Number, mark the question number box and stick a barcode label on each sheet, and fasten them with string **INSIDE** the relevant Question-Answer Book.
- (6) No extra time will be given to candidates for sticking on barcode labels or filling in the question number boxes after the 'Time is up' announcement.
- (7) The two Question-Answer Books you have attempted (one for Part A and one for Part B) will be collected together at the end of the examination. Fasten the two Question-Answer Books together with the green tag provided.
- (8) The unused Question-Answer Book for Part B will be collected separately at the end of the examination. This will not be marked. Do not write any answers in it.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PART A

- (1) The Question-Answer Book for Part A is inserted in this Reading Passages booklet.
- (2) Attempt ALL questions in Part A. Each question carries ONE mark unless otherwise stated.

PART A

Read Texts 1-3 and answer questions 1-27 in the Question-Answer Book for Part A.

Text 1

Parking up at the Food Garage

- 1 [1] Have you ever watched the way teenagers eat when they're out? They constantly check their phones and pay little attention to their environment, let alone what's in front of them... their lack of seriousness is fantastic. You may think taking them to a restaurant would be a waste of time and money, but it's not. You just have to find the right eatery.
- 5 [2] To prove this theory, I took some friends and their two teenage daughters to the *Food Garage*. The family had recently relocated to New Zealand from America, and I thought if I could fill them with burgers, fries and hot dogs, they may feel less homesick. It worked like a treat.
- [3] I first learned of the *Food Garage* after watching an episode of the TV show, *Cool Food*. At that time, it was just a humble food truck, turning out fast food that promised not to send you to a fast grave. After the show aired, fans 10 flocked to the truck, and the business has since also opened a restaurant on 90 Wellesley St. West, in the City Works district.
- [4] The first things we ordered were fish wraps and mini pizzas. The wraps had plenty of zing and slap from fresh lime, and were topped with hot chilli and fresh greens all locally grown. The pizzas bore no resemblance to those served at late-night deliveries. This version consisted of a thin crust and a light layer of cheese. The flavours were 15 moreish in the extreme. Next to arrive were our burgers and hot dogs. The knock-out was the hot dog, a dark sausage of minced and pickled pork, with homemade sauce. Yums!
- [5] The *Food Garage* concept plays heavily on the 'healthy' aspect of classic fast food and, without a more scientific test, at the end of our meal we all reported feeling fabulous and guilt-free. If you feel as though dining out has become a bit serious of late, parking up at the *Food Garage* is the perfect antidote.

Text 2

The War on Big Food

- 1 [1] Multinational packaged-food companies lost \$4 billion in market share alone last year, as shoppers switched to fresh and organic alternatives. Can these food giants win you back?
- [2] Try this simple test. Say the following out loud:
- 5
- *Canned food*
 - *Pre-packaged lunch*
 - *Frozen TV dinners*
 - *Soft drinks containing artificial colors and flavors*
- [3] If any one of these terms raised a hair on the back of your neck, left a sour taste in your mouth, or made your lips purse with disdain, you may be part of Big Food's multi-billion-dollar problem. In fact, you may even belong to a growing consumer class that has some of the world's biggest and best-known food companies scrambling to change 10 their businesses.
- [4] Lest you think this is exaggeration, consider this: industry analysts say that the top 25 U.S. food and beverage companies have lost an equivalent of \$18 billion in the market share since 2009. One expert compared them to melting icebergs. "Every year they become a little less relevant."
- 15 [5] In some ways, it's a strange turn of events. The idea of 'processing' – from salting and curing to the modern artificial preservatives – arose to make sure the food we ate didn't give us food poisoning. Today we know that it's the processed food itself that's making us unhealthy. Shoppers still value the convenience that food processing offers but the pendulum has definitely shifted in their minds. They have more and more questions about why this bread lasts 25 days without going stale.
- 20 [6] Although the changing consumer landscape has contributed to lackluster growth among some of the industry's major players, major food companies are still going strong. For now.

Text 3

Newsletter - The Sustainability Plan of Star Resort, Singapore

- 1 [1] Despite our leading role in the resort industry, we are constantly making improvements to our sustainability practices. As a world-leading luxury resort, we have thoroughly reviewed our environmental practices. We have decided on several new measures for both food sustainability and employee engagement.
- 5 [2] By 2050, unless behaviors change, overfishing will have reduced fish numbers to dangerously low levels in the seas of Southeast Asia. The current situation is that Star Resort does not have the same clout when compared to that of the rest of the entire service and retail sector in Singapore. Last year, we imported about sixty million dollars' worth of seafood compared to one billion dollars for the whole sector.
- 10 [3] We have three proposals to increase both the supply and demand for sustainable food sources. First, Star Resort will develop a buyers' consortium with a few premium hotels, such as Royal Park or The Grand, which promote sustainability. This consortium should be able to identify which seafood vendors use environmentally-friendly fishing techniques and restrict our purchases of fish to only these vendors.
- [4] This leads to the second recommendation. Based on this increased buying power, Star Resort will be able to demand that other food suppliers of all our food types also get certified as environmentally-friendly corporations. That means more food companies in Singapore will become environmentally-friendly, creating a ripple effect.
- 15 [5] And third, Star Resort can increase investment in its own vertical farms that grow herbs and vegetables. Last year, Star Resort's garden provided about 2 kilograms of herbs a day and we think this can be increased to other common vegetables.
- 20 [6] Central to our stewardship program, however, is employee engagement. Last year, we had about 60 'Go Green Ambassadors' but less than 50 percent of our employees attended our sustainability events. We have three measures to improve employee engagement.
- 25 [7] All new staff need to attend training sessions to increase awareness of environmental issues facing Southeast Asia as well as Singapore, with a focus on solutions that our company promotes to solve these problems. Additionally, we should provide rewards for different teams and departments when they meet their key performance indicators. Finally, we plan to host innovation contests for our employees to promote solutions that are unique and applicable to their specific departments.

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.