

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 4-5 and answer questions 28-46 in the Question-Answer Book for Part B1.

Text 4

Below is an extract from an online forum where residents of a housing estate are discussing the possibility of putting plants around the entrance of the housing estate.

SUBJECT: Improving our housing estate	
USERNAME	POST
Girlgeorgy April 21, 2021 11:35 AM	[1] I looked at the entrance area of our housing estate and thought it was ugly. We have some concrete plant holders outside and we should put some colourful plants in them to make it livelier. Right now, they are full of rubbish but I think people would not throw rubbish into them if we filled them with soil and some bright plants. Also by adding plants, the front area would become more pleasant and fresh. Those coming home from a long day would see the plants and feel better. The boring appearance would be livened up and people would have a warm, welcoming feeling; so adding plants out front would be an improvement to the lives of the residents. 1 5
Artsypatsy April 21, 2021 11:45 AM	[2] Yes, we need something outside. I have thought about putting climbing plants in the plant holders on the right side of the entrance. There are pipes and posts running up to the ceiling beside and above the planters. The climbers will help cover the posts and pipes and brighten the entrance and keep the air fresh. 10
Bazseedling April 21, 2021 11:58 AM	[3] We should have some flowering plants around the front doors. They would be a very nice addition and I'm sure many people would appreciate them. 15
Crustyclown April 21, 2021 12:11 PM	[4] You are all dreaming. Plants will only bring bugs and will dirty the entrance with falling leaves and dead flowers. The janitors will have additional work to tidy the mess. If you want it to look vibrant, just paint it with many colours. 20
Girlgeorgy April 22, 2021 11:35 AM	[5] Thanks to those of you who are supporting my ideas. We should start planning our project for the entrance. I think we need to appoint someone to take care of the project and to finish the planting in the entrance. That person should start by choosing the plants for the front. I am willing to take charge but I would like some of you to help me out. If that is fine, then I will start looking for suitable plants and then check possible garden supply stores. Our concern should be the price so I will ask for a discount. 25
Susan_B April 22, 2021 11:58 AM	[6] Girlgeorgy, I really don't care whether we have plants or not. Remember that there are many kids playing around the estate. We should not have plants which are sensitive to excessive touching and kids will always want to play with the plants. What's more, I can see some of the kids pulling the leaves out and sticking them inside their mouths. That would kill the entrance plants. So if we are going to have entrance plants, just make sure they are safe! 30
Artsypatsy April 22, 2021 4:30 PM	[7] I really think Girlgeorgy should be in charge but I could also help out. The entrance is a perfect place for plants because there is a lot of sunlight but it only hits the left side which is also windy and cold in the winter. The right side doesn't get direct sunlight but does have some light when the lobby lights are switched on after 6:00PM. That means we need to consider different plants on each side of the entrance. A mix of different plants on each side would be ideal for all the residents. 35
Bazseedling April 23, 2021 11:58 AM	[8] I am all for the idea that Girlgeorgy should be the head. I also want some flowers in the front area. Either the right side or the left side would be fine. 40
Girlgeorgy April 23, 2021 3:30 PM	[9] OK, I will take charge of the project. My next step is to make a flyer by researching possible choices and prices for plants and circulate it among you for your opinions. Please tell me what you think and how much you'd like to spend. Hopefully, we should be able to get a good mixture of different plants – we don't need flowering plants everywhere in order to get a good variety of colour. 40

Text 5

Below is a flyer with information about plants for the residents of the housing estate.

Possible plants for the residents of the housing estate

Name of Plant	Type of Plant	Care, Water and Sunlight Requirements	Special Notes
English Ivy	Climbing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This plant is quite easy to care for. ♦ You should water it regularly and keep the soil moist especially when it is kept outdoors. ♦ It needs direct sunlight. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It needs to be protected from wind. ♦ Its leaves and sap are poisonous.
Chinese Virginia Creeper	Climbing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It is an all-around tough plant that is easy to care for. ♦ You should water it regularly. ♦ It survives in low light conditions but grows faster in direct sunlight. ♦ It tolerates cold, exposed locations and heavy clay soils. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Its leaves are colourful in summer with pink and white veins.
Moon Orchid	Small Flowering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It requires expert care. ♦ It needs loosely packed soil that allows airflow around its roots. ♦ The soil needs to be kept wet in order to flower. ♦ Do not expose it to direct sunlight. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It needs regular fertiliser. ♦ It has pink or white flowers.
Dumb Cane	Small	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It is easy to care for. ♦ It should be watered frequently in summer and kept moist in winter. ♦ Keep it in well-lit areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The leaves and sap are poisonous. ♦ Avoid pollutants. ♦ Cold temperatures can kill this plant. ♦ It is an ideal house plant.
Kumquat	Small Flowering Fruit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This plant requires a lot of care. ♦ It should be watered frequently but not overwatered. ♦ It needs direct sunlight. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It is a beautiful decorative plant and has white flowers. ♦ It can easily be damaged by insects and excess touching. ♦ It needs fertiliser 4 times a year.
Red Crown Cactus	Small Flowering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This plant is easy to care for. ♦ It does not require much water. ♦ It needs direct sunlight, but balanced with shade at night. ♦ Avoid cold conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ It has sharp spikes which can cause injuries. ♦ It has red or orange flowers.

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.