

## 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.

Not to be taken away before the  
end of the examination session

## PART B1

Read Texts 2-3 and answer questions 23-45 in the Question-Answer Book for Part B1.

### Text 2

# International Guide Dog Day Celebrates the Partnership between Owner and Dog



- 1 [1] Most people have heard about guide dogs. These service animals are carefully trained to lead their owners (either blind or with limited vision) around, avoiding other people and obstacles, so their owners can travel safely and independently.
- 5 [2] In honour of the guide dogs that have changed the lives of those with disabilities, April 29<sup>th</sup> is International Guide Dog Day. Without them, many could not do simple daily activities that most people take for granted. Here are three inspirational stories of how guide dogs have changed people's lives for the better:

### Story 1

- 10 [3] At five years old Nathan became ill with arthritis, which soon affected his eyesight. Fourteen years later, he lost his sight completely. At this point, he felt hopeless, but that was when his family decided to get a guide dog, and it changed his life. When Nathan met Hudson, it was the most amazing day, and he even cried because of how emotional the experience was. Hudson has turned Nathan's life around. Now Nathan has the confidence to go out even with the loss of his sight. Hudson is more than just a guide dog; he is Nathan's best friend.

### Story 2

- 15 [4] Sami is just like any typical everyday sixteen-year-old, except she is blind. However, that hasn't stopped Sami from long distance running. Before going blind, she loved to run, and she didn't want to stop because of her disability. Because of her guide dog, Chloe, she is able to continue doing what she loves. Chloe runs with Sami for miles and trains with Sami on a daily basis. Because of Chloe, Sami is able to continue doing long distance running with her school, and now the team has an extra four-legged member.

### Story 3

- 20 [5] Mark and Claire are both blind and met while they were getting their guide dogs. The dogs they were training with kept pulling towards each other, so they started talking. Because of their guide dogs, the two started going on dates, and it was a perfect match. They loved hanging out, and so did their pups. It was great because they felt like they could understand each other since they both had the same disability. Eventually Mark asked Claire to marry him, and it's all thanks to their guide dogs.



### Text 3

## Hong Kong needs 1,700 guide dogs for the visually impaired, but where can the animals be trained?

1 [1] Trainers say outdated laws and insufficient public awareness prevent them from giving guide dogs under training full exposure to the city.

[2] When Meicy Choi took her four-month-old labrador retriever named Don Don out on a sunny Saturday in December, she did not expect to get into a row over going to the park with her canine buddy.

5 [3] Don Don is not an ordinary dog. He is training to become one of fewer than 50 guide dogs in Hong Kong, and Choi herself is not blind but is registered as a host to train and care for him. But a staff member at Lai Chi Kok Park stopped her from entering the park and asked to check her documents. "Even if you are blind, you can't take the dog in!" the worker said. A handful of onlookers, mostly middle-aged women, gathered and confronted Choi.

10 [4] The commotion frightened Don Don, causing the dog to become uneasy. "You can't be serious," Choi recalled thinking to herself. She eventually backed down, not wanting to escalate the matter.

[5] Such incidents reflect the daily challenges faced by guide dog trainers in the city. The issues are grey areas under current laws, which allow visually impaired people to use public facilities with their guide dogs, but not those who train the animals.

15 [6] Hong Kong only started breeding guide dogs in 2011 because of a previous lack of professional trainers. The city's guide dog community lags in scale compared with neighbouring Japan and South Korea, not to mention the United States or Germany, which were the first countries to train such dogs in the 1920s.

20 [7] Raymond Cheung Wai-man, chairman of Hong Kong Seeing Eye Dog Services and the first person to start a guide dog training institution locally seven years ago, estimated the city would need 1,700 guide dogs, given its 170,000 visually impaired people. "On top of taking visually impaired people around and preventing them from walking into obstacles, guide dogs also help them lead freer, more confident and dignified lives," Cheung said.

25 [8] But outdated laws and insufficient public awareness remain the biggest obstacles to a bigger role for guide dogs in Hong Kong, according to Cheung. "The government needs to change the current laws, which do not protect dogs under training," Cheung said. "If a trainer takes a bus with a trainee dog, there is a chance the driver may deny them entry. But if the dogs never get on buses during training, how can they learn to do this and help the visually impaired?" To familiarise guide dogs with the urban environment and prepare them to assist the blind, trainers need to take them around the city and "go everywhere", Cheung said.

30 [9] "Public awareness has improved a lot from six years ago, when I had to fight just to allow guide dogs under training onto the MTR. But misunderstandings still exist," Cheung said, as evident in another row at a cha chaan teng in Yau Ma Tei in December, which stirred up a heated online debate. The restaurant had refused to let in a trainer with a trainee guide dog. It eventually apologised on its Facebook page after coming under fire from netizens, and said it welcomed visually impaired customers with guide dogs.

35 [10] "I think many people are supportive of guide dogs," Choi said. Referring to Choi's encounter, a spokeswoman for the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) said guide dogs and dogs under training were allowed to enter all venues managed by it, including public parks. "But it's possible some staff like security guards were unclear about the guidelines," she said.

[11] "The government will continue to work with rehabilitation organisations and stakeholders to facilitate the development of the guide dog service in Hong Kong," the LCSD spokeswoman said.

### 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.