



MANDARIN CHINESE

Paper 2 Chinese Culture

1341/02

May/June 2014

1 hour 15 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper



READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

You may **not** take texts or films into the examination.

Choose **one** question and answer **either** Question (a) **or** Question (b). You may choose your question from **either** Section 1 **or** Section 2.

Write your answer in English.

You should write between 600 and 750 words.

A maximum of 30 marks are available, of which 25 are for content and 5 are for structure.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions carry equal marks.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.

Choose **ONE** question (**EITHER** Question (a) **OR** Question (b)) from **EITHER** Section 1 **OR** Section 2 and answer in English.

Recommended word length: 600–750 words.

Your answer will be marked out of 30 with 25 marks for content and 5 marks for structure.

SECTION 1: TOPICS IN CHINESE CULTURE

1 The Founding of the People's Republic of China

EITHER:

- (a) Mao described the Red Army as 'the fish who swam in the sea', the sea being the Chinese peasants. To what extent was its relationship with the peasantry fundamental to the Chinese Communist Party's ultimate victory over the Japanese and the Guomindang?

OR:

- (b) To what extent was the Chinese Communist Party successful in revolutionising the education of the population in the period 1949 to 1956?

2 Chinese Economic Trends since 1978

EITHER:

- (a) 'Corruption might eventually ruin China's economy.' How far do you agree with this statement? What measures has the Chinese government taken to deal with corruption and with what degree of success?

OR:

- (b) Outline the means by which the Chinese government has dealt with the increasing energy needs of the country. How successful have these policies been?

3 Emerging China: Population, Environment and Migration

EITHER:

- (a) What were the main factors influencing China's population growth in the period 1949–1976? To what extent did Mao's view that a big population is a powerful population influence population policy in this period?

OR:

- (b) 'Pollution is now so serious that policies on pollution control must inevitably change.' To what extent do you agree with this statement with respect to present-day China? Illustrate your answer with specific examples.

SECTION 2: CHINESE LITERATURE AND FILM

4 *Love in a Fallen City and Other Stories*, Eileen Chang

EITHER:

- (a) In *The Golden Cangue*, Ch'i-ch'iao (Cao Qiqiao) is 'transformed into an animal driven by the desire for power and money'. Analyse Ch'i-ch'iao's character with close reference to the text and discuss the extent to which you agree with this statement.

OR:

- (b) 'Reading Eileen Chang is to read into the heart of the women of her time: repressed, oppressed, helpless, and surrendered to fate.' How far do you agree with this statement? Discuss with close reference to **two** stories.

5 *Red Dust*, Ma Jian

EITHER:

- (a) Ma Jian faces danger and adversity during his journey. How well does he cope with these difficult experiences and to what extent does he learn from them? Illustrate your answer with close reference to the text.

OR:

- (b) Discuss Ma Jian's relationships with his family and friends with reference to *Red Walls* and one other section of the novel.

6 *Yellow Earth*, Chen Kaige

EITHER:

- (a) 'The film *Yellow Earth* is a story about fate.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Build your argument with close reference to the film.

OR:

- (b) 'Gu Qing does not appear to notice the disconnect between his ideals and the family's reality.' How far do you agree with this statement? In your answer, include references to the characters, the physical environment in which they live and the cinematography.

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