

# LONGMAN NEW SENIOR LIBERAL STUDIES

## Mock Paper Pack (October 2011 Edition)

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Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination

### Liberal Studies Paper 2

#### Question-Answer Book

This paper must be answered in English

Duration: 1¼ hours

1. This paper consists of three questions. **Answer ONE question only.**
2. Write your answers in the spaces provided in this Question-Answer Book. **Do not write in the margins.**
3. Candidates are reminded that this subject emphasises the ability to present and support points of view in a clear, concise and logical manner, rather than the ability to recall facts.

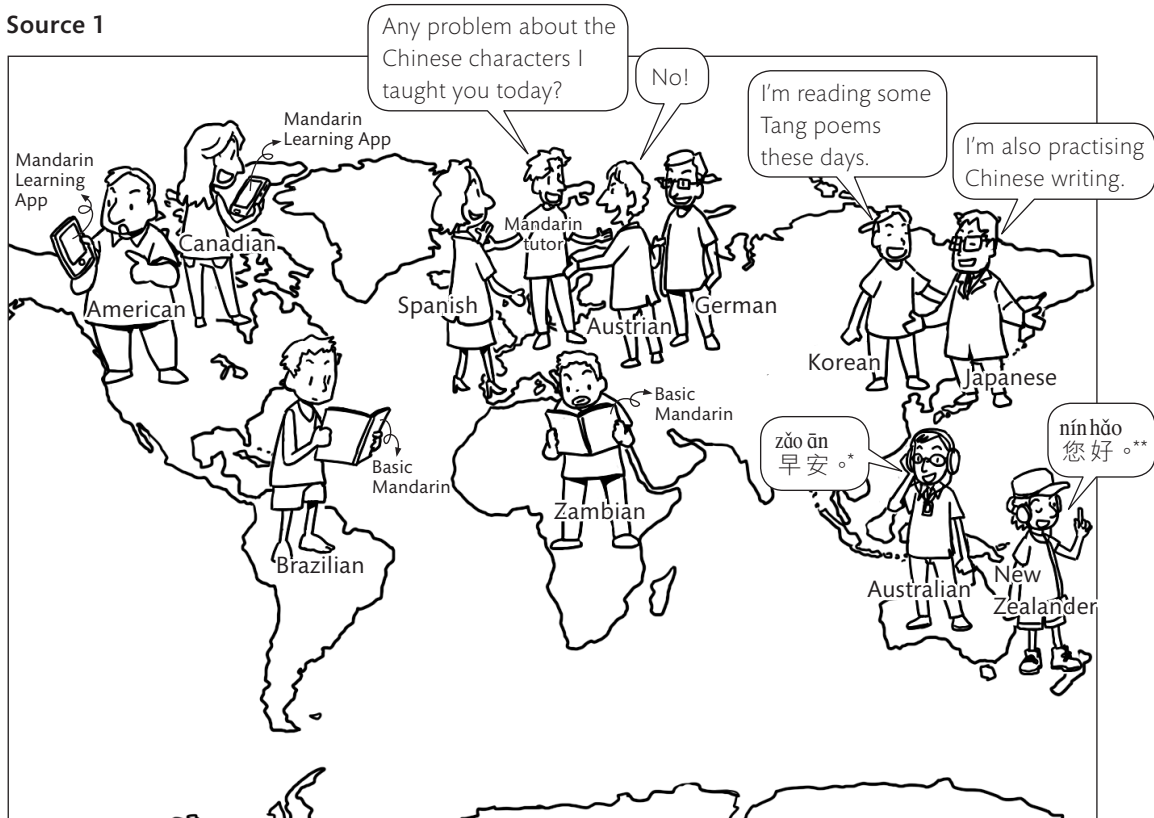
Candidate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

1	
2	
3	
Total marks	



2. Consider the following information:

Source 1



\*Translation: Good morning.

\*\*Translation: Hello.

- (a) The above cartoon reflects a cultural phenomenon. To what extent do you think the growth in China's economic power since the reform and opening-up is the major cause of this phenomenon? Explain your answer. (10 marks)
- (b) Referring to the cartoon and using your own knowledge, explain how the phenomenon shown above helps enhance China's comprehensive national power. (10 marks)

## Set 1 Paper 1

### Suggested answers to data-response questions

- 1a.** With reference to Source 1, elaborate on the social phenomenon in present-day Hong Kong as reflected by the above cartoon. (6 marks)

The cartoon reflects the social phenomenon of 'Kong kids' (or 'HK kids'). As seen from the cartoon in Source 2, the child acts like an emperor and has supreme status in the family. This shows that the parents have spoiled their son and are obsessed about his life and studies.

However, as shown in Source 1, many children who are well cared for by their parents and foreign domestic helpers do not know how to handle various everyday tasks (for example, they do not know how to do simple housework; they are unable to finish the meal without the help from parents; unable to clean up and change clothes by themselves; unable to finish homework on their own) as they lack the ability to care for themselves.

Meanwhile, since parents and foreign domestic helpers take care of their every need, children rarely have to think independently. Therefore, they lack the opportunity to act independently and train up their self-care ability. When facing adversity, these children do not know how to deal with setbacks, which greatly reduces their resilience. This has led to the emergence of so-called 'Kong kids' – a generation which has less ability to care for themselves and to recover from setbacks.

- 1b.** Elaborate on the causes for the emergence of the social phenomenon you mentioned in Question (a). (8 marks)

	Answers	Remarks
(1)	I think the emergence of the 'Kong kids' (or 'HK kids') phenomenon is closely related to the parenting style, with parents being busy with work and the educational system. I will explain these factors in detail below.	①② (refer to 'Analysis of answer')
(2)	First of all, the 'Kong kids' phenomenon is closely related to the 'pampering' mode of parenting. Influenced by social and cultural changes (e.g., the traditional belief of several generations in a family living under one roof is considered outdated) and the heavy economic burden of raising children, many couples have decided to have fewer or even no children at all. This has caused the family structure in Hong Kong to change from an extended family to a nuclear family.	⑦⑨
(3)	As most families usually have only one or two children, many parents will try their best to satisfy the material desires of their children by buying branded clothing, the latest mobile phones and electronic games. There are even cases like the one described in Source 1, where parents give their children over \$1,000 in pocket money each month. As parents over-protect and over-indulge their children, they rarely contradict their children's opinions and seldom ask children to do even simple housework or pick up their toys after playing. Many parents protect their children even if the children are at fault. All of these cause their children to lose their resilience in the face of setbacks and their ability to take care of themselves.	⑦⑨

(4)	Secondly, parents today are busy with work, which is another factor in the development of the 'Kong kids' phenomenon. Family is the basic environment for socialisation and has a critical influence on children. Providing guidance and instilling the correct values in their children are important for their growth. This also prepares children for their future social life and work.	⑦ ⑨
(5)	However, double-income families (families with two working parents) are common nowadays and this greatly reduces the time that parents spend at home. This not only weakens the functions of socialisation within the family, but also undermines the family's role in providing a sense of belonging and security to its members. As both parents are busy with work, many families depend on foreign domestic helpers to take care of their children. Because of their position, foreign domestic helpers rarely scold the children. They will do the things that the children should do themselves (e.g., changing their clothes and putting toys away after playing). Being over-protected by parents and foreign domestic helpers, many children have become over-dependent on others. This not only weakens their ability to take care of themselves and solve problems independently, but also hinders their self-development.	⑦ ⑨
(6)	Lastly, the educational system is also responsible for the emergence of 'Kong kids'. On the one hand, parents and teachers attach great importance to the academic performance of the children. On the other hand, parents enroll their children in numerous extra-curricular activities in preparation for their future studies. To allow children to concentrate on their studies and take part in various extra-curricular activities, parents do not require them to do everyday tasks by themselves. Therefore, the educational system has created a breed of 'Kong kids', who excel at academic studies or extra-curricular activities but lack the ability to take care of themselves.	⑦
(7)	To sum up, parenting style, parents who are too busy with work and the educational system are the main reasons for the emergence of 'Kong kids'. (Or other reasonable answers.)	③ ⑩ ⑪

### Analysis of answer:

#### 1b.

Answering techniques	Explanation
<b>Analysing the question</b>	
Identify the focus of the question <sup>1</sup>	① Identify the question's focus: about causes; no need to state candidate's stance  ② Respond to key words: 'causes', 'social phenomenon' (e.g., 'Kong kids' or 'HK kids' phenomenon)
Correctly determine the standpoint requirements	
Seven key skills in interpreting a question <sup>2</sup>	

<b>Answering the question – structure of the answer</b>	
Systematic presentation of answer structure	③ The answer is divided into seven paragraphs: (1) – introduction; (2) – (6) reasons × 3; (7) conclusion; systematic structure
A. Define key words	④ Definition is not needed as the wording of the question is clear
B. With arguments and counter-arguments	⑤ Not applicable as this is not an argumentative question
C. Comment on counter-arguments	⑥ Not applicable as this is not an argumentative question
<b>Answering techniques – quality of arguments</b>	
1. Three steps to constructing arguments: T-I-E <sup>3</sup>	⑦ Fulfill three basic steps in constructing arguments
2. Refer to the source(s) as examples	⑧ Not applicable as it is not required by the question
3. Refer to facts or existing knowledge as examples	⑨ Many examples are raised in various places
4. Ensure that the arguments are fair and objective	⑩ Fair and objective arguments
5. Put forward arguments from multiple perspectives A. A reasonable number of arguments and perspectives B. Arrange arguments in order of importance	⑪ Put forward three arguments for the eight-mark question and analyse from different perspectives
6. Show positive and proactive thinking	⑫ Not applicable

**1c. Suggest possible ways to prevent the emergence of the social phenomenon you mentioned in Question (a). (6 marks)**

In order to prevent the emergence of the 'Kong kids' phenomenon, I think we need to work on following three areas: family education, social support and education policy.

Firstly, parents should change their parenting style. They should not over-protect and spoil their children. For example, parents can encourage their children to do simple housework such as tidying up their own rooms. Parents should let their children do things that are within their capability (e.g., packing their own school bags and putting toys away after playing). Through such actions, parents can nurture their children's ability to take care of themselves and prevent them from becoming too dependent.

Apart from this, parents should also avoid using material goods to win the hearts of their children. Otherwise there will be endless demands from their children for more material comforts, which will make them unable to appreciate what they possess when they grow up. Parents should also change the mindset they have of putting too much emphasis on the academic performance of their children. Parents should let