

**USE OF ENGLISH AS-LEVEL SECTION C  
READING AND LANGUAGE SYSTEMS**

**Question-Answer Book**

10.30 am – 12.00 noon (1½ hours)

**Q.P. Code: 5013**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Write your Candidate Number, Centre Number and Seat Number in the boxes provided on this cover **AND** on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.
2. Read carefully the instructions on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet and insert the information required (including the **Q.P. code**) in the spaces provided.
3. **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS:** this Question-Answer Book contains the questions for Parts 1 and 2.
4. **Answers to all of Part 1 Questions 1–17 and to Part 2 Questions 18–47 should be marked on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet. Answers to Part 2 Questions 48–98 should be written in this Question-Answer Book.**
5. For multiple-choice questions, mark only **ONE** answer to each question. Two or more answers will score **NO MARKS**.
6. Marks will not be deducted for wrong answers.
7. Supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number on each sheet and fasten them with string inside this book.
8. You are advised to spend approximately 20 minutes on Part 1 (Reading) and approximately 70 minutes on Part 2 (Language Systems).

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Candidate Number						
Centre Number						
Seat Number						

Marker's Use Only	
Marker No.	
Total	

Checker's Use Only	
Checker No.	
Total	

Read the following article and then answer questions 1–17. From the four choices given, choose the option which best answers each question. You should mark your answers to questions 1–17 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

### Hong Kong – facing the future

In the last few months, the columns of this newspaper, echoing ideas circulating throughout the community, have been filled with articles seeking to contribute to the discussion of Hong Kong's role in the region and the world.

- 5 Some of the thinking has focused on 'more of the same' but some has been bolder, envisaging Hong Kong as a 'world-class city', perhaps one of two in the region, joining others in the international arena such as London and New York.

- 10 This debate is healthy, but it is important to acknowledge that pro-active decisions for the coming years will be of the utmost importance, though they are extremely difficult to make. In order to effectively shape the future of Hong Kong, a means must be devised to meet the community's rising expectations for economic and social amenities as well as to prevent further degradation of the physical environment. Effective pro-active decision-making requires an ability to anticipate needs, to monitor and react to community values, and to consider a broad range of economic, environmental and social issues. These issues are central to a sustainable development strategy, an integrated approach to public policy which takes into account a huge range of environmental and socio-economic factors.

- 25 Several weeks ago, the level of the public discussion here was raised in a rather quiet fashion. In what was an unusual speech to a group of hard-nosed businessmen, Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa addressed a meeting of the Hong Kong Association of Banks. Mr Tung concentrated on the need to deliver a better quality of life for the citizens of Hong Kong, particularly in relation to the environment. Not surprisingly, the audience greeted the speech politely but without marked enthusiasm. In his talk, Mr Tung expanded on a view, which is apparently gaining currency as a sound vision of the future, that Hong Kong has the opportunity to be one of the top five to ten truly global cities. Hong Kong is today a place where ideas are born and flow freely, where residents enjoy freedom of expression, and where people can display the entrepreneurship and business acumen for which the city is so justly famous. During the next 20 to 30 years, Hong Kong will clearly need all these attributes which already go towards making it attractive to business people worldwide, particularly those which facilitate the transformation of financial capital into economic activity.

- 45 Herein, however, lies the rub. To be a global city, Hong Kong will also need to make its mark as an attractive place to live in, beyond being just a great place to do business. The last few years have seen a recognition here even among the business elite that there has been a marked decline in the quality of life, especially with regard to the environment. Recently everyone from community notables to men-in-the-street seems to have remarked that the days of crisp blue skies and a sparkling harbour, traditionally Hong Kong's chief allure for local people and visitors alike, have become

- 55 rare indeed. And there has been widespread acknowledgement, however reluctant, that environmental problems affecting the quality of life are the outcome of economic choices and decisions. These are made locally, though the problems are exacerbated by our proximity to Mainland China.

- 60 Although opinions of the current quality of life in Hong Kong are as varied as the people who live here, concerns about air pollution, land reclamation, waste disposal and the development of country parks are beginning to emerge as major public policy issues. The Chief Executive has thrown down the gauntlet to the financial community by saying, 'You have a role to play.' In his speech to the bankers, he spelt out that improving the physical environment is crucial to the health of Hong Kong's people, vital to the enjoyment they derive from living here and of utmost importance to the economy of the whole region.

- 70 Sceptics will no doubt argue that words are cheap and that ultimately, intent needs to be measured by results. The machinery of Government will, one hopes, take up the challenge and recognise that the window of opportunity to act and to maximise the benefits to Hong Kong's advantage is a small one. This will need new thinking, a challenge to the *status quo*, and some degree of honesty in acknowledging the ineffectiveness of certain existing policies if we are to successfully reshape Hong Kong. But it is simplistic, if tempting, to heap all the responsibility for achieving these objectives on the Government alone.

- 85 It is also far too easy to criticise only the Government for poor results. Ultimately, the achievement of the goal of making Hong Kong a pre-eminent city requires consensus and clear political objectives. There are obvious barriers to persuading our decision-makers, politicians and voters to pay today to protect the future. Success requires constructive debate and accountability on all sides, not political gamesmanship or fancy footwork.

- 90 The difficulties in accomplishing such a complex plan for the future must not be underestimated. Interrelated issues are not always fully addressed under existing political or administrative arrangements. Policy integration, for example, can only take place within a clearly-defined framework which removes obstacles to co-operation caused by conflicting agendas and a desire to maintain political stability. As a metropolitan city, Hong Kong has features which will continue to add to its unique nature, its competitiveness, and its overall attractiveness internationally as an excellent place for investment, residence and tourism. These aspects will certainly all need to be part of the future of Hong Kong as it strives to become the city of Mr Tung's vision. The obstacles are formidable but so are Hong Kong's assets.

(Freely adapted from an article by Chandran Nair in the Sunday Morning Post, January, 1999.)

1. The debate mentioned in line 9 is taking place .....
  - A. in London and New York.
  - B. in regional cities.
  - C. all over Hong Kong.
  - D. in many world-class cities.
2. In paragraph 2, what does the writer suggest is most essential as we look towards Hong Kong's future?
  - A. taking care of the physical environment
  - B. greater economic expectations
  - C. social amenities which are valuable to the community
  - D. decision-making which anticipates and addresses needs
3. In a country which has 'a sustainable development strategy' (line 20), public planners .....
  - A. concentrate on the protection of the physical environment.
  - B. must consider a variety of different issues in planning for the future.
  - C. must submit their ideas to the public for approval.
  - D. are mostly concerned with economic growth.
4. In line 32, 'gaining currency' means .....
  - A. maintaining the Hong Kong dollar-US dollar link.
  - B. expanding on a theme or view.
  - C. becoming more generally accepted.
  - D. increasing Hong Kong's financial reserves.
5. From what the writer says about Tung Chee-hwa's speech, the reader can infer that the bankers in the audience .....
  - A. were somewhat surprised by the speech's message.
  - B. enthusiastically greeted the Chief Executive.
  - C. thought the speech was too quiet.
  - D. argued enthusiastically about the merits of the speech.
6. In paragraph 4, the writer suggests that the major attraction of Hong Kong for visitors has been .....
  - A. its physical beauty.
  - B. the shopping.
  - C. its business environment.
  - D. the local people.
7. Which of the following statements best describes local attitudes to Hong Kong's quality of life today?
  - A. No one is concerned about it.
  - B. There are many different views about it.
  - C. It is an alien concept in Hong Kong.
  - D. It is at the forefront of people's minds.
8. In lines 63–64, 'thrown down the gauntlet' refers to suggesting to the financial community that they .....
  - A. should continue to increase their profits.
  - B. alone are responsible for the environment.
  - C. must consider the environment in the future.
  - D. should ignore the environment and focus on financial matters.
9. In paragraph 6, what does the writer suggest sceptics will argue?
  - A. There needs to be more discussion to get good results.
  - B. Nothing worthwhile is said by Government.
  - C. It is difficult to measure effective results.
  - D. Results are the only things that really count.
10. 'The machinery of Government' (lines 71–72) refers to .....
  - A. the Public Works Department.
  - B. the decision-making system.
  - C. new infrastructure projects.
  - D. the system of appointment and promotion.
11. In line 78, 'we' refers to .....
  - A. the Government.
  - B. effective decision-makers.
  - C. Hong Kong people.
  - D. the readers of this article.
12. According to the writer, who should be responsible for achieving the desired development objectives?
  - A. the Government alone
  - B. the Hong Kong voter
  - C. the politicians in power
  - D. no single person or organisation
13. In paragraph 7, the writer suggests that the most important factor in becoming a pre-eminent city is .....
  - A. an agreed political agenda.
  - B. cleaning up the environment.
  - C. the support of the financial sector.
  - D. Government imposing new laws.
14. In line 82, 'Ultimately' means .....
  - A. lastly.
  - B. in the long term.
  - C. as an initial step.
  - D. consequently.
15. In line 88, 'fancy footwork' means .....
  - A. kicking out those who disagree.
  - B. more time for relaxation.
  - C. more sport for a healthy lifestyle.
  - D. clever manipulating.
16. The note that the writer ends the article on is .....
  - A. neutral.
  - B. cautiously optimistic.
  - C. very positive.
  - D. pessimistic.
17. A good alternative title for this article would be .....
  - A. *The politics of Hong Kong.*
  - B. *A vision of greatness.*
  - C. *A more accountable Government.*
  - D. *Cleaning up the environment.*

**PART 2 LANGUAGE SYSTEMS** (12% of the subject mark)

From the four choices for each of questions 18–35, choose the option which would best complete the article if inserted in the blank. You should mark your answers to questions 18–35 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

**Study finds Internet use leads to depression**

The more hours people spend on the Internet, the more depressed, stressed and lonely they feel, according to a study that has surprised even its authors. The study, the first (18) the emotional (19) of people's Internet use (20) time, concluded that Internet use had this effect even for those who spent most of their time in such activities as 'chat rooms' or exchanging e-mails.

The study, headed by Robert Kraut, a social psychology professor at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, was published this week in *The American Psychologist*, the monthly journal of the American Psychological Association.

'One reason for the (21) may be that using the Internet (22) less time for the deeper relationships with friends and family,' Mr Kraut said. 'People are (23) the stronger social bonds they had in the past with weaker ones. They are having conversations on narrower topics with strangers rather than with people who are connected to their lives.'

The findings (24) the researchers' expectation that Internet use would foster social contact, especially through e-mail and chat rooms.

Mr Kraut and his (25) followed 93 Pittsburgh-area families for two years, and the number of hours they spent on-line (26). The families were given computers,

phone lines and free use of the Internet (27) agreeing to fill out (28) questionnaires.

Participants' levels of depression and loneliness were measured at the start of the study. At the end of the two years, researchers found they (29) changes in an individual's emotional state according to the number of hours spent on the Internet.

Participants' responses were mixed. For example, one participant, Andrea Rubinsky, said she did not feel any worse for her Internet use, and indeed, her usage (30) since the study began. She started off using it 10-15 hours per week, but now (31) only about three hours. She made no lasting friends through the chat rooms, she said, but did use e-mails to (32) friends she had met in person.

Her father, Peter, also did not feel he had neglected personal relationships to spend time on-line. 'However, I would say there's (33) at times with certain household chores', Mr Rubinsky said. 'There were times when the car (34)!'

The study will continue in order to examine the (35) that seem to produce the emotional effects, and how computer use compares with television use.

(Freely adapted from an article in the South China Morning Post, 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1998.)

18. A. examines  
B. has examined  
C. that examine  
D. to examine
19. A. impression  
B. impact  
C. contact  
D. sense
20. A. over  
B. by  
C. in  
D. about
21. A. unexpected findings  
B. surprising issue  
C. recent publication  
D. suggested results
22. A. brings  
B. spends  
C. leaves  
D. takes
23. A. replacing  
B. taking  
C. making  
D. reconsidering
24. A. defined  
B. matched  
C. explained  
D. contradicted
25. A. workers  
B. studies  
C. colleagues  
D. research
26. A. recorded  
B. was recorded  
C. has been recorded  
D. recording
27. A. without  
B. in spite of  
C. with regard to  
D. in return for
28. A. occasional  
B. random  
C. scarce  
D. difficult
29. A. would predict  
B. have predicted  
C. could predict  
D. can be predicting
30. A. was dropping  
B. had been dropped  
C. had dropped  
D. was dropped
31. A. averaged  
B. used  
C. left  
D. took
32. A. make up with  
B. put up with  
C. keep up with  
D. make do with
33. A. an excuse  
B. a conflict  
C. an argument  
D. a controversy
34. A. hadn't washed  
B. hasn't washed  
C. didn't wash  
D. didn't get washed
35. A. equipment  
B. machinery  
C. organisms  
D. mechanisms

The following editorial is in six paragraphs. From each set of four choices given, choose the most suitable option so that the passage makes sense as a whole. You should mark your answers to questions 36–47 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

## Punishing pirates

Scarcely a week goes by without a seizure of pirated goods by SAR police or Customs and Excise officers. Even so, the trade in illegal CDs, VCDs and CD-ROMs

- (36) A. has dropped since the threat of US sanctions.  
B. is being targeted by the Customs and Excise Department.  
C. was mentioned by the Chief Executive in his last Policy Address.  
D. continues to be as brisk and blatant as ever.

In Hong Kong there are an estimated 200-300 shops selling fake products

- (37) A. sometimes above the cost of the real versions.  
B. at prices comparable to cheap copies.  
C. at a fraction of the price of the genuine articles.  
D. on a two-for-one exchange basis.

The sight of customers snapping up illegal copies of the latest movies at MTR stations emphasises yet again

- (38) A. that it does not require intensive detective work to locate pirate outlets.  
B. that Customs and Excise need to monitor how pirated VCDs are brought into Hong Kong.  
C. how difficult it is to find good movies if you live in out-of-the-way places.  
D. how some districts may be discriminated against.

Pirated products are readily available at well-known venues every day.

The factories producing pirated copies may be difficult to track down, but

- (39) A. the places where these pirated goods are copied are obvious to many people.  
B. it ought to be a simple matter for the authorities to stop the open hawking of these goods.  
C. it is a simple matter for Customs and Excise to inspect vans and lorries as they enter from China.  
D. it ought to be possible to prevent the materials used for making illegal copies from crossing the border.

In recent years, the total number of pirated discs intercepted annually by the Customs and Excise Department has increased,

- (40) A. and it will prosecute illegal traders in future.  
B. and it has had more success against the illegal trade.  
C. but this practice will stop soon.  
D. but victory is as far away as ever.

And while the illegal trade continues to flourish, it is

- (41) A. the local film industry and genuine suppliers who shoulder the heavy cost.  
B. the cross-border surveillance teams who need the extra support.  
C. the police who too often turn a blind eye to the trade.  
D. the legal traders who are making a substantial effort.

Last month, Hong Kong's largest distributor of legitimate software, Deltamac, closed because it said it was impossible to make a profit in an industry where

- (42) A. the police are doing nothing to help genuine traders.  
B. Customs and Excise frequently take illegal traders to court.  
C. pirates do 10 times more business than legal companies.  
D. business has fallen as a result of the economic downturn.

The video chain Take 5 had to close earlier in the year for the same reason. The loss in revenue to the SAR from piracy is estimated to amount to more than \$951 million a year.

As legitimate enterprises close,

- (43) A. piracy may simply move offshore to other Asian countries such as Thailand.  
B. pirates will go on making good profits.  
C. Hong Kong will push for law and order.  
D. cross-border patrols by Customs and Excise will need to be increased.

Meanwhile, the US government will continue to accuse Hong Kong of not doing enough to stamp out a trade which is doing considerable harm domestically

- (44) A. while leaving plenty of scope for genuine traders to make a profit.  
B. although it is having a positive impact on foreign exports.  
C. as well as hurting trading relations with other nations.  
D. and is still boosting the local economy.

A recent study commissioned by the US Business Software Alliance claimed that

- (45) A. rampant piracy would cost Hong Kong 10,000 jobs and  
B. US companies would suffer little except for  
C. US-HK trade relations might eventually account for  
D. piracy provided employment and Hong Kong could expect

\$1 billion in lost sales by 2001.

In September, raids on 26 shops in the Sino Centre

- (46) A. were abandoned after illegal traders received a warning and fled.  
B. were conducted in complete secrecy by Customs and Excise.  
C. found that most shops were selling more legal than illegal VCDs.  
D. netted 200,000 pirated discs of Japanese films worth \$2 million.

However, the raids were carried out only after complaints from a delegation of TV programme makers who

- (47) A. flew over specially from Tokyo to see the situation for themselves.  
B. had received letters of complaint from illegal companies.  
C. did not believe that Hong Kong was the centre for copying and piracy.  
D. were in Hong Kong to dispute the amount of copying here.

The \$900 million-plus in pirated goods seized by Customs officers this year is only the tip of the iceberg. Greater effort and stiffer sentences for offenders will be needed if piracy is ever to be brought under effective control.

*(Freely adapted from an editorial in the South China Morning Post, 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1998.)*

You should write your answers to ALL the remaining questions (48–98) in this Question-Answer Book.

The article below has been produced in two versions. Version 2 has some missing words and phrases. Read Version 1 and then fill in the blanks in Version 2 for questions 48–68 in such a way that the meaning of Version 1 is preserved. You should also make sure that your answers are grammatically correct, paying attention to tenses, plurals, etc.

### Version 1

## Burning issue of herbal fuel

He might not be able to turn water into wine, but self-taught ‘scientist’ Ramar Pillai claims to be able to perform a feat almost as miraculous. Hong Kong was the latest stop for the Tamil Nadu school dropout and would-be alchemist, who has shown remarkable persistence in trying to find a backer for his ‘secret’ method of turning herbs into a fuel which he claims is cleaner, cheaper and more efficient than petrol. This is despite scientists in India having declared his fuel a hoax last year after initially being impressed by his ‘discovery’. Mr Pillai insists his fuel is genuine and claims to be the victim of a conspiracy to prevent it from being put into mass production. He says he has staged demonstrations for the chief ministers of many Indian states. In Tamil Nadu in the south of India, the only state where the fuel is sold, motor scooter owners queue up to buy it at 10 rupees (HK\$2.15) a litre, 15 rupees less than the cost of petrol.

When he first began demonstrating his fuel two years ago, Indian scientists announced he had made an amazing breakthrough and officials from his home state accorded him police protection. However, V. Ramamurthi, head of India’s Federal Science and Technology Department, said laboratory-controlled experiments showed that Mr Pillai was injecting petrol into his concoction to produce its combustible properties. A spoon Mr Pillai insisted on using to stir the mixture was discovered to have been hollowed out and filled with petrol. A statement from the Department was later tabled in India’s parliament, branding Mr Pillai a fraud. Scooter owners around his home town of Idaiyankulam continue to have faith in him, however, insisting it would be senseless for Mr Pillai to buy fuel at 25 rupees per litre and then to sell it off more cheaply. He has become a folk hero to motorists, producing 1,000 litres a day before hordes of cheering spectators.

Mr Pillai says he has applied for a patent for his fuel and, until he receives it, refuses to reveal the plant used. He says he discovered the properties of the mystery ‘herb’ during a school picnic in 1978. Like many schoolboys, he liked playing with matches and

was surprised to see a green leaf burn when he dropped a match on it. He decided to leave school and claims to have roamed the jungle for 10 years before finding the plant, and then toiled tirelessly in his home-made laboratory to perfect his formula. The recipe requires water, the mystery plant, the correct quantities of a number of common chemicals such as citric acid, sodium chloride, zinc sulphite, and aluminium silicate, plus a secret catalyst.

Mr Pillai staged a smelly demonstration for the *South China Morning Post* in the poorly-ventilated Sheung Wan office of Charles Cheung, the managing director of Amalgamated CNG Vehicles, the agency which is backing Mr Pillai in Hong Kong. Mr Cheung said he had faith in the fuel and hoped it could revolutionise transport in the SAR. He said: ‘We will look into setting up a pilot scheme here to see whether it is commercially viable. We could sell it for \$2 a litre here, compared to more than \$10 a litre for regular fuel.’ As Mr Pillai mixed up his magic potion in a glass pitcher, a retinue of family and friends looked on, making sure his formula did not fall into the wrong hands. After a few minutes, it separated into an oily layer on top of a watery layer. After drawing off the oil, Mr Pillai demonstrated that it burned vigorously, as searing, eye-watering fumes filled the room.

The oil produced in the demonstration, Mr Pillai claimed, was actually about 60 per cent hydrocarbon-based fuel. Given several days, he said, the purity improves dramatically to more than 95 per cent. He proudly handed out copies of a report by the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras, which concluded after a test that the fuel was more economical than regular petrol when used in an unmodified engine, and gave off less lead and sulphur.

When asked to comment, a spokesman for the Hong Kong Trade and Industry Bureau said that Mr Pillai’s fuel could be produced here if the chemicals used could be legally imported. That, he said, would be a matter for Customs and Excise.

(Freely adapted from an article in the *South China Morning Post*, 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1998.)



Use **ONE** word to fill in each blank for questions 48–68. Note that the most suitable word **MAY** or **MAY NOT** appear in Version 1. You should make sure that your answers are grammatically correct, paying attention to tenses, plurals, etc.

Second  
Marker's  
Use Only

Version 2

First  
Marker's  
Use Only

48	Ramar Pillai is a self-taught scientist from the (48) _____ state of Tamil	48
49 50	Nadu, who claims he can turn (49) _____ into (50) _____.	49 50
51	Mr Pillai discovered the secret more than twenty years ago on a (51) _____	51
52	when he accidentally set fire to a leaf. He dropped out of school and spent many years looking for	52
53	the leaf and working on the (52) _____ in order to be able to produce fuel. Apart from	53
54 55	water and some readily-available (53) _____, there are two necessary secret ingredients	54 55
56	needed to make the fuel – the (54) _____ and a (55) _____. When	56
	these are combined, a mixture is initially produced which will burn – although it is not very	
	(56) _____. If left for a few days, however, the fuel content can rise significantly.	
	Mr Pillai referred to studies conducted in India which have shown that the fuel is cheaper	
	and purer than normal petrol, and that engines which use the fuel do not need to be	
57	(57) _____. When he first made his breakthrough, because of its potential importance,	57
58	Mr Pillai had to be guarded by the (58) _____. Subsequent studies by the Indian	58
59	Government, however, have resulted in Mr Pillai's work being labelled a (59) _____. Laboratory	59
60	tests indicated that the mixture produced does not have the properties Mr Pillai had suggested. Indeed, the	60
61 62	Indian Government stated that, in his demonstrations, Mr Pillai used a hollowed-out (60) _____	61 62
63	to inject petrol into his mixture to make it burn. Back in Tamil Nadu, however, Mr Pillai is regarded as	63
64	something of a (61) _____, especially by those who ride (62) _____.	64
	He produces a thousand litres of fuel a day which is then sold to (63) _____	
	at less than half the (64) _____ price.	
	Mr Pillai recently demonstrated his product in Hong Kong. The demonstration took place at the	
65	office of his (65) _____, Charles Cheung, with Mr Pillai surrounded by his	65
66	family and friends. Their presence was necessary in case the formula was (66) _____, since	66
67	Mr Pillai hasn't yet got a (67) _____ for his formula. The demonstration appeared to	67
68	be successful because the poorly-ventilated office was soon filled with (68) _____.	68

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Q. 4 Total

Q. 4 Total

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For questions 69–80, the statements in Column B can be paired with those in Column A so that the second statement follows naturally from the first. The two correctly-matched statements from Column A and Column B form a pair, but if all the statements in the exercise are put together, they **DO NOT** form a complete passage. Write the letters of the statements from Column B in the spaces provided in the Answer Column as shown in the example. Each letter should be used **ONCE ONLY**.

Column A	Answers	Column B
EX. Dishonest jockeys, conniving civil servants and fraudulent newspaper bosses are all targeted.	<u>J</u>	A. And in these recessionary days they seem to last all year.
69. Once you do it the first time, you're hooked – until you've assembled your own collection of happy snappy sticker photos, that is.	69. _____	B. And the carpark next to Shun Tak Centre in Sheung Wan boasts the world's biggest neon one; it's made out of more than 13 kilometers of glass tubing.
70. People love this beautiful stretch of white sand which is so tranquil they forget they're in Hong Kong.	70. _____	C. But Hong Kong's dried food shops are essential for delectable dinners and healthy homemade soups.
71. Refreshing, creamy, downright irresistible mango pudding has to be the best dessert in town, so much so that one popular hotel sells 200 orders of it at lunch every day.	71. _____	D. Cheap local food-to-go in the morning may have debatable nutritional value, but it definitely tastes good.
72. Victoria Harbour glows every Christmas and Lunar New Year with buildings draped in colourful celebratory lights.	72. _____	E. Especially when you don't have to peer through a polluted haze to see it.
73. Hong Kong's clean, speedy and reliable MTR may have had its hiccups here and there – including malfunctioning Octopus cards, air-con glitches and occasional suicidal commuters.	73. _____	F. For a smoother spoonful, smother it in evaporated milk first.
74. Colourful signs are literally one of the city's most brilliant features.	74. _____	G. We couldn't live without this zippy form of transport – except when steered by near-blind drivers.
75. Nestled between the concrete monstrosities of Central's bustling business district are the Hong Kong Zoological and Biological Gardens, a haven for several endangered species.	75. _____	H. They provide a rare opportunity to connect with nature without having to leave the urban area.
76. From the TST promenade, from the Peak, from the Kwun Tong flyover – from anywhere overlooking the harbour – there's nothing like a glimpse, especially a night-time one, of the city skyline.	76. _____	I. Priced at \$30-\$40 per sheet, the machines to make them are everywhere, and they are now available in 3-D.
77. We love becoming frenzied shopaholics when the sales are on.	77. _____	J. Nothing can escape an investigation by the Independent Commission Against Corruption.
78. They're terrifyingly fast and dangerously reckless, but our public light buses are cheap and convenient.	78. _____	K. Shun Sze Company is one of the main companies responsible for these spectacular displays, using a total of 130,000 bulbs for last year's festive seasons.
79. The Hong Kong versions of a quick donut and coffee for breakfast are peanut butter toast or hot rice flour rolls smothered in peanut, sweet chili and soy sauce.	79. _____	L. It gets 2.4 million people a day where they're going, though.
80. Yes, they stink and, yes, they stock packets of some of the weirdest forms of animal and plant life, including seahorses and frog's ovaries.	80. _____	M. And, as surfers will attest, there's even the occasional wave at Tai Long Wan in Sai Kung East Country Park, rated as the SAR's cleanest non-gazetted beach.

(Freely adapted from Hong Kong Magazine, 5<sup>th</sup> February, 1999.)

**Q. 5 Total**  
(First Marker)

**Q. 5 Total**  
(Second Marker)

Correct the errors in the following letter to the editor. Lines (a) to (d) are examples. No line has more than one error and some lines are correct. Changes to punctuation should not be made. **Do not make unnecessary changes.** If you think there is no error in a line, put a tick (✓) at the end of the line (example a).

For questions 81–98 corrections **MUST** be done **EXACTLY** as follows:

**Wrong word:** underline the wrong word and write the correct word above it (example b).

**Extra word:** delete the extra word with a 'X' (example c).

**Missing word:** mark the position of the missing word with a '^' and write the missing word above it (example d).

Second Marker's Use Only	<b>Appalling</b>	First Marker's Use Only
a.	As a regular reader of your columns ✓	a.
b.	and <u>the</u> committed environmentalist, I	b.
c.	would like to bring <del>up</del> to the public's attention	c.
d.	a serious situation which they may not <sup>have</sup> noticed. ^	d.
81	Chek Keng was used to be a remote, beautiful and	81
82	tranquil bay in Sai Kung, and providing an excellent	82
83	natural retreat for city dweller in Hong Kong. Over	83
84	the past few years, however, it has become heavily pollute.	84
85	A lot of plastic bags and other unsightly rubbish	85
86	have dumped on the shore. There is a	86
87	disgusting smell in the bay caused the refuse.	87
88	Chek Keng illustrates the multitude of problem	88
89	facing our natural environment, which being ruined	89
90	by greed and ignorance. The only responds we	90
91	have see over the years from the Hong Kong Government	91
92	has been empty words and breaking promises.	92
93	Chek Keng is die and, unless prompt action is taken to	93
94	clear up the mess, it will beyond saving. If we don't	94
95	act now, our remaining areas of unspoilt land end up	95
96	being completely and unnecessarily destructed.	96
97	Hong Kong people seem to unaware that they are	97
98	wasting one of their best resource – the environment.	98
	Maria Chan Central	

(Freely adapted from a letter to the editor in the South China Morning Post, 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1998.

**Q. 6 Total**

**Q. 6 Total**

**TOTAL: Qs 4, 5, 6**

**TOTAL: Qs 4, 5, 6**

END OF PAPER

2000 Use of English (Section C)

Key

Part 1

Part 1		Reading							
1.	C	4.	C	7.	B	10.	B	13.	A
2.	D	5.	A	8.	C	11.	C	14.	B
3.	B	6.	A	9.	D	12.	D	15.	D
								16.	B
								17.	B

Part 2

Part 2		Language Systems							
18.	D	24.	D	30.	C	36.	D	42.	C
19.	B	25.	C	31.	A	37.	C	43.	B
20.	A	26.	B	32.	C	38.	A	44.	C
21.	A	27.	D	33.	B	39.	B	45.	A
22.	C	28.	A	34.	D	40.	D	46.	D
23.	A	29.	C	35.	D	41.	A	47.	A

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 48. South / Southern Indian                                      | 60. spoon   |
| 49. herbs // plants // leaves // vegetation                      | 61. hero  |
| 50. fuel // petrol   | 62. scooters // motorscooters // motorcycles // motorbikes  |
| 51. school picnic / outing / trip / excursion                    | 63. motorists // people // customers // locals //           |
| 52. formula // recipe  | consumers // villagers // drivers // motorcyclists // users |
| 53. chemicals  | 64. regular // normal // usual // petrol // standard //     |
| 54. plant // herb(s) // leaf // leaves } <i>must be in order</i> | retail // common  |
| 55. catalyst   | 65. agent // backer // supporter // associate // sponsor // |
| 56. pure // combustible // flammable // inflammable              | partner // colleague  |
| 57. modified // altered // changed // adjusted // converted      | 66. stolen  |
| 58. police   | 67. patent  |
| 59. fraud // hoax // ruse  | 68. fumes // smoke  |

69. I	72. K	75. H	78. G
70. M	73. L	76. E	79. D
71. F	74. B	77. A	80. C

81. ~~was~~
82. ~~and~~ // provided / provides // ~~providing~~
83. ~~dweller~~ // providing // ~~providing~~  
the / a
84. dweller // for ^ dweller
85. polluted  
pollute
86. been  
have ^ dumped X are  
by have
87. caused ^ the by the
88. problems  
problem
89. is  
which ^ being X ~~which~~  
response responses  
respond X respond
90. seen  
see
91. broken of
92. breaking // breaking ^ promises
93. dying  
die X doomed / dead // will  
is // become is
94. be  
have ^ dumped X will // will ^ beyond  
would
95. will / could / might / may  
land ^ end X land ^ end up
96. destroyed  
destructured
97. be
98. to ^ unaware // ~~resrouce~~  
resources  
resrouce

[NOTE: for the summary cloze (questions 48 – 68) and the proofreading exercise (questions 81 – 98), there were a number of alternate correct answers.]