

HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION 2011

**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. After the announcement of the start of the examination, you should first write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label in the space provided on Page 8.
2. Read carefully the instructions on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet. Stick a barcode label and insert the information required in the space provided.
3. **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.** Marks will not be deducted for wrong answers.
4. This Question-Answer Book contains the questions for Parts 1 and 2. **Answers to all of Part 1 Questions 1 - 14 and to Part 2 Questions 15 - 44 should be marked on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet. Answers to Part 2 Questions 45 - 98 should be written on Pages 8 - 11 of 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. You are advised to use an HB pencil to mark all the answers on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet so that wrong marks can be completely erased with a clean rubber. You must mark the answers clearly; you will lose marks if the answers cannot be captured.
7. Supplementary Answer Sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label on each sheet and fasten them with string inside Pages 9 and 10 of this Question-Answer Book.
8. You are advised to spend approximately 20 minutes on Part 1 (Reading) and approximately 70 minutes on Part 2 (Language Systems).
9. Pages 1 - 7 of this Question-Answer Book will not be collected at the end of the examination. **YOU SHOULD HAND IN PAGES 8 - 11 ONLY.** Page 8 is orange in colour.
10. No extra time will be given to candidates for sticking the barcode labels or filling in the question number boxes after the 'Time is up' announcement.

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

PART 1 READING (6% of the subject mark)

Read the following article and then answer questions 1 - 14. From the four choices given, choose the option which best answers each question. You should mark your answers to questions 1 - 14 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

Message in a bottle

[1] Place a bottle of wine from China on a dinner table in Paris or New York and jokes about *Chateau Melamine* will come thick and fast as diners wonder if the country that gave the world milk mixed with a lethal form of plastic resin can be trusted to make fine wine. With so many problems with food safety in the past few years, wine producers in China are facing an uphill battle with the label, 'Made in China'.

[2] Even if wine drinkers overseas were prepared to concede that many Chinese food and drink products are safe for human consumption, they are likely to turn away from the nation's wines because the mainland has no system for classifying them or for ensuring consistency of quality; there is no equivalent of the French *appellation d'origine contrôlée* system, which guarantees that a wine comes from a specific place and has been made with a specific type of grape.

[3] However, it would be a mistake to think that the mainland is a stranger to wine production. Archaeologists have found traces of winemaking with grapes (and other fruit) dating back thousands of years, especially in Shandong province. According to *cnwinenews.com*, grape wine production in the country totalled 398,800 kilolitres last year, 87.2 per cent of it coming from Shandong, Jilin, Henan, Hebei and Tianjin. The China National Cereals, Oils and Foodstuffs Import & Export Corporation (Cofco), which churns out 150 million bottles each year, is one of the world's largest wine manufacturers – but most of its products are overpriced, unpleasant and destined to be left largely untouched on banquet tables.

[4] 'The great majority of grapes are grown by farmers who have never tasted wine in their lives and are never likely to,' British wine expert Jancis Robinson wrote in 2008. 'Their chief concern is to deliver as large a crop to the wine producer as soon as possible, and the market seems to have been schooled to expect wine to be red, watery, bone dry and tough.' Adding to this, students at China's wine academies are not trained to taste wine. 'They are taught all about chemistry and winemaking hardware, but can emerge garlanded with honours, having tasted remarkably little, and certainly no foreign, wine.'

[5] In spite of all this, a quiet revolution is taking place that could eventually transform the global wine industry. In the south of Shanxi, to the northwest of Beijing, and in Shandong province are regions which sit on the same latitude as Bordeaux and Napa Valley, home to some of the most expensive and prestigious wines in the world. Wine producers, including heavyweights such as *Domaines Barons de Rothschild (DBR)*, are moving into the area with a view to producing first-rate wines. 'China is a vast country ranging from deserts to mountains, and thus it contains

55 many different soil types,' explains Matthew Aylmer, who has pioneered the sale of Chinese wines. 'This means there is a huge variety of terroirs (the mixture of soil, geographical factors and climate that determines a vineyard's quality) in China and that is the fundamental building block of great wine.'

[6] This was a key factor in DBR's decision to buy 25 hectares in Shandong province. The Medoc-based grower, which produces some of the world's most famous and expensive vintages, saw an opportunity to start a joint venture with CITIC Group and repeat the success it enjoyed in exporting its fine wine formula to Chile and California, where it has created top-class vineyards where none existed before. If a convincing domestic version could be produced, the potential profits would be extraordinary.

[7] Nicolas Billot-Grima, whose family has over six generations of history in the winemaking industry, decided to create a winery within sight of the Great Wall of China, 70 kilometres northwest of Beijing. 'The field was totally no-man's land,' Billot-Grima says. 'It was nothing. It was rocks.' Despite that, the area had what he thought was the perfect terroir to create a vintage with a unique character. 'In six years we have turned stones into gold,' says Billot-Grima. 'China will be the key wine market of the future.'

[8] But in the meantime, there are several obstacles to overcome. Several Chinese wine experts believe that excessive humidity and insufficient sunshine make it difficult to grow wine grapes. The hot and humid summers mean a lot of pesticides are needed to deal with the ensuing diseases and the winters are too cold to support grapes. They say it might be possible to make good wine, but doubt the region has 'grand cru' potential.

[9] Partnering with local farmers and the government is another obstacle to overcome. Foreign companies that are hoping to set up joint ventures with local governments often face difficulties with officials. 'It's very difficult to get into business without power and influence,' says Bosco Wang, Billot-Grima's Hong Kong-based partner. 'Having a name and a reputation go a long way, but what it really comes down to is knowing the right people.' And there's also the issue of money. As local farmers see a chance to cash in, rent for farmland has skyrocketed.

[10] Despite the drawbacks, slowly but surely some mainland wines are beginning to develop a worldwide reputation. That day is still some time off but fine wine producers on the mainland are not disheartened. They perhaps remind themselves that just four decades ago, Californian wines were a joke sold in gallon jugs and mostly drunk in trailer parks. And then, in 1976, a

Californian wine beat top French producers in a blind tasting and the Napa Valley revolution began.

110 [11] But nobody believes Chinese wine can follow suit unless the country improves quality standards across

the board. Every time there is a scandal involving a Chinese product, aspiring vineyards are pushed a few steps away from acceptance by the world's top 115 sommeliers.

1. What is 'Chateau Melamine' (lines 2-3)?
 - A. contaminated wine
 - B. the name of a wine
 - C. a manufacturer of milk
 - D. a lethal form of plastic resin
2. According to paragraph 2, which of the following statements is **FALSE**?
 - A. Chinese wine is not safe for human consumption.
 - B. The quality of Chinese wines is not guaranteed.
 - C. Overseas standards are not applied to Chinese wines.
 - D. Overseas drinkers do not trust the label, 'Made in China'.
3. What 'mistake' (line 18) is the writer referring to?
 - A. China is one of the world's largest wine manufacturers.
 - B. China's wine is overpriced and unpleasant.
 - C. Winemaking in China is a recent development.
 - D. Wine is not usually served at Chinese banquets.
4. What does 'churns out' (line 28) mean?
 - A. to craft by hand
 - B. to put into a bottle
 - C. to produce something instantly
 - D. to produce a large quantity quickly
5. According to paragraph 4, in China...
 - A. producers of wine do not actually drink wine.
 - B. farmers are only concerned with making a profit.
 - C. the graduates from wine academies are not trained.
 - D. the taste of wine is unfamiliar to people in the wine industry.
6. What does 'garlanded' (line 41) mean?
 - A. heaped
 - B. justified
 - C. decorated
 - D. overwhelmed
7. 'This' (line 61) refers to _____.
 - A. the variety of terroirs
 - B. the fundamental building block
 - C. the vastness of China's geographical terrain
 - D. the opportunity to repeat its past success
8. What is the correct meaning of the word 'vintage' (line 78)?
 - A. the initial stages of winemaking
 - B. the yield of wine from a vineyard
 - C. the year or place in which a wine is bottled
 - D. wine that has been stored for several years
9. Which of the following is **NOT** an obstacle to wine production in China?
 - A. climate
 - B. pesticides
 - C. land rental
 - D. foreign investment
10. According to Bosco Wang, what do foreign companies need most to set up business in China?
 - A. cash
 - B. expertise
 - C. reputation
 - D. connections
11. What does 'across the board' (lines 111-112) mean?
 - A. at the top levels of management
 - B. in all industries in China
 - C. in accordance with safety board regulations
 - D. in accordance with international standards
12. Who is the least hopeful about China's wine potential?
 - A. Chinese wine experts
 - B. Chinese fine wine producers
 - C. Jancis Robinson
 - D. the writer
13. What conclusion does the writer make?
 - A. The Chinese wine industry has a worldwide reputation.
 - B. Improved quality of wine is essential to the development of the wine industry.
 - C. The potential for a viable high quality wine industry exists in all regions in China.
 - D. Chinese wines are only a few steps away from being accepted by the world's top sommeliers.
14. What is the overall tone of the article?
 - A. cautiously optimistic
 - B. strongly biased
 - C. aademic
 - D. critical

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

From the four choices for questions 15 - 33, choose the option which would best complete the article if inserted in the blank.

You should mark your answers to questions 15 - 33 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

Book review

Book title: The Great Brain Race: How Global Universities Are Reshaping the World
Author: Ben Wildavsky

The word 'globalization' usually conjures up images of globe-spanning companies and distance-destroying technologies. In 'The Great Brain Race', Ben Wildavsky points (15) another mighty agent of globalization: universities. These were some of the world's first 'global' institutions. In the Middle Ages, great universities such as Paris and Bologna (16) 'wandering scholars' from (17) Europe. In the 19th century, Germany's research universities employed scholars from around the world. In the early 20th century, philanthropists such as Cecil Rhodes and William Harkness established scholarships to foster closer (18) between countries. By the 1960s, globe-trotting professors were so commonplace that they (19) the butt of jokes.

Academic globalization has gone into (20) in the modern university. Some of this is along (21) lines – academics collaborating with ever more foreign colleagues and sabbatical-seekers contriving to spend ever more time abroad. (22) Mr Wildavsky demonstrates that globalization is now much more complicated than just cross-border collaboration spiced up (23) free trips.

Universities are obsessed (24) the global marketplace for students and professors. They (25) to attract as many students from abroad as possible, (26) because foreign students usually pay full fees. Nearly 3 million students now (27) some time studying in foreign countries, a number that (28) steeply in recent years. Universities are also setting up overseas. New York University has opened (29) in Abu Dhabi, and six American universities have created a higher-education super-campus in Qatar.

This is a fascinating story. But Mr Wildavsky, who works for the Brookings Institute, wastes too much time quoting experts and summarizing other people's research. He (30) a better book had he spent (31) time with his fellow think-tankers (who are mesmerized by the idea of a global knowledge economy) and more time talking to students, who (32) the disadvantages as well as the advantages of the new cult of globalization (33) first hand.

15. A. for
B. in
C. at
D. to
16. A. attract
B. attracted
C. have attracted
D. had been attracting
17. A. in
B. over
C. across
D. through
18. A. links
B. joints
C. works
D. studies
19. A. had been
B. had become
C. had been being
D. had been becoming
20. A. use
B. fashion
C. practice
D. overdrive
21. A. unknown
B. straight
C. familiar
D. uneven
22. A. As
B. But
C. Whereas
D. Therefore
23. A. to
B. in
C. at
D. with
24. A. with
B. for
C. at
D. in
25. A. tried
B. had tried
C. are trying
D. had been trying
26. A. at least
B. at best
C. not best
D. not least
27. A. spend
B. spending
C. had spent
D. would spend
28. A. rises
B. is rising
C. has risen
D. will rise
29. A. a class
B. a branch
C. a university
D. an outlet
30. A. has written
B. would write
C. will have written
D. would have written
31. A. less
B. more
C. little
D. some
32. A. feel
B. find
C. have
D. experience
33. A. at
B. in
C. to
D. by

The following article consists of six paragraphs. The beginning of each paragraph is indicated by ¶. From the four choices for each question, choose the best option to complete the article. You should read the whole text before beginning to make your choices.

Mark your answers to questions 34 - 44 on the multiple-choice Answer Sheet.

Hunters and shoppers

¶ Men are generally better than women on tests of spatial ability, such as mentally rotating an object through three dimensions or finding their way around in

- (34) A. a familiar place.
B. a known situation.
C. a new environment.
D. a neighbouring village.

But a new study suggests that under some circumstances a woman's way of navigating is probably more efficient.

¶ Luis Pacheco-Cobos of the National Autonomous University of Mexico and his colleagues discovered this by following

- (35) A. mushroom gatherers
B. mushroom growers
C. mushroom experts
D. mushroom researchers

from a village in the state of Tlaxcala for two rainy seasons. The researchers, each fitted with GPS navigation devices and heart rate monitors, followed different subjects on different days. They recorded

- (36) A. the weight of the mushrooms
B. the number of mushrooms
C. the size of the mushrooms
D. the species of mushrooms

each collected and where they visited. The GPS data allowed a map to be made of the routes taken while the heart-rate measurements provided an estimate of

- (37) A. the route taken
B. the distance covered
C. the number of steps taken
D. the amount of energy expended

during their travels.

¶ The results, to be published in *Evolution and Human Behavior*, show that the total mass of mushrooms collected by the men and the women were on average about the same. But the men travelled

- (38) A. slower,
B. farther,
C. more quickly,
D. more efficiently,

climbed higher and used a lot more energy – 70% more than the women. The men did not move any faster, but they searched for spots with lots of mushrooms. The women

- (39) A. made more trips,
B. worked as a team,
C. stopped less often,
D. made many more stops,

apparently satisfied with, or perhaps better at finding, patches of fewer mushrooms.

¶ Previous work has shown that men tend to navigate by creating mental maps of a territory and then imagining their position on the maps. Women are more likely to remember their routes using landmarks. The study supports the idea that male and female

- (40) A. brains
B. navigational skills
C. physical attributes
D. intelligence

were honed differently by evolution for different tasks. Modern-day hunter-gatherers divide labour, so that men tend to do more hunting and women more gathering. It seems likely that early humans

- (41) A. rarely did this.
B. did much the same thing.
C. were good at dividing labour.
D. were products of their environment.

¶ The theory is that the male strategy is the most useful for hunting prey; chasing an antelope, say, would mean running a long way over a winding route. But having killed his prey, the hunter would want to

- (42) A. eat it at once
B. rest for a while
C. gather more food
D. make a beeline for home

rather than retrace his steps exactly. Women, by contrast, would remember landmarks and return to the most productive patches of plants.

¶ The research suggests that

- (43) A. in general
B. at all times
C. in certain circumstances
D. it is inconclusive whether

women are better at navigating than men, which might lend some comfort to a man

- (44) A. following a map
B. happily shopping
C. spending his money
D. desperately searching for an item

in a supermarket while his exasperated wife methodically moves around the aisles filling the shopping trolley. He is simply not cut out for the job, evolutionarily speaking.

End of multiple-choice questions. Go to Pages 8 - 11 for questions 45 - 98.

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *Examination Report and Question Papers* published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.

Candidate Number

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Please stick the barcode label here.

Write your answers to ALL the remaining questions (45 - 98) in this Question-Answer Book.

For questions 45 - 55, pair the statements in Column A with those in Column B 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 Answers column as shown in example (a). Each letter should be used ONCE ONLY.

Column A	Answers	Column B
a. The quality of material becomes more important than ever as one grows older.	<u>L</u>	A. Then I found myself wondering if I was too old to wear them.
45. My male version of clothes shopping is very simple.	45. _____	B. I would never wear something with a logo splashed across my chest because I am not a walking billboard.
46. Younger people use fashion to show that they are members of a particular group.	46. _____	C. But there's a fine line between looking appropriate and looking boring.
47. Last month I bought a pair of ripped jeans and a scoop-necked T-shirt.	47. _____	D. I can't think of when to wear it now that I've bought it.
48. Men's fashion has become more trendy in recent years.	48. _____	E. As I grow older, such traditional combinations become more appealing.
49. I recently bought a tailored jacket that looked great in the shop and in the fitting room.	49. _____	F. In middle age, such tribal behaviour is frowned upon.
50. For me, the design of T-shirts is a central issue.	50. _____	G. If they become too fashion-conscious, people may think they are having some sort of a crisis.
51. Abandoning anything that reeks of teenagers – baseball caps, slogan T-shirts – is an obvious starting point in growing old with fashionable grace.	51. _____	H. By then, you can play the eccentricity card.
52. Now that I'm in my 30's, I feel a short-sleeved shirt is a good compromise.	52. _____	I. I decide what I want; I buy it and wear it repeatedly.
53. I always used to think that smart shoes and smart trousers were too grown-up.	53. _____	J. Unfortunately, little help is proffered on this subject in men's magazines.
54. Middle-aged men are right to worry about following trends that are aimed at their juniors.	54. _____	K. It is not too formal, but less casual than a T-shirt.
55. Once you are in your sixties you have a free hand.	55. _____	L. Cheap cotton is not flattering to any age.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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The article below has been produced in two versions. Version 2 has some missing words. Read Version 1 and then fill in the blanks in Version 2 for questions 56 - 77 in such a way that the meaning of Version 1 is preserved.

Version 1

Ghost stories

In 1944 the critic Edmund Wilson expressed surprise that the ghost story was still alive and well in the age of the electric light. But why should he have been surprised? Ghosts are resilient creatures. They thrive in an atmosphere of candlelight and decay, in antique manors, graveyards and cloisters and yet, they are equally at home under the harsh light of the electric bulb. The advent of the motor car and the invention of the telephone have merely made ghost stories more ingenious, and exercised the talents of a host of writers.

Ghosts themselves have an ancient cultural lineage but ghost stories – those deliberate fictional constructs that are designed to make their readers feel pleasurably afraid – are of relatively recent origin. Their main characteristics were developed in the early nineteenth century, and from the earliest stages of their evolution they anchored themselves firmly in the here and now, reflecting the ordinary landscapes and circumstances of contemporary life. This, indeed, was what distinguished them from their immediate literary antecedents which were set in worlds completely imaginary and, in fact, impossible.

Ghost stories generally (though not exclusively) concern themselves, in some way, with the returning human dead, but they must be set in a recognisable reality. They operate in familiar environments in which ordinary human beings are engaged in ordinary activities. We need to know that the fictional world is *our* world; that the characters are, in a sense, our representatives. The trick of a good ghost story, in

other words, is to make us feel that such things may happen to *us*. For it to work, in literary terms, the supernatural requires firm grounding in the natural.

Thus, the ghost stories of nineteenth century England typically reflected the times in which they were written. In an age of rapid material and scientific progress, the idea of a vengeful past able to reach out and violate the present held a special potential for terror. Ghost stories developed in parallel with the epoch's fascination for death and what lay beyond it, often taking the shape of a more general warning against trusting merely to reason. Ghost stories offered a counterbalancing viewpoint to the ascendancy of secularism and science.

Ghost stories have successfully utilised the landscape, technology and consciousness of contemporary life to adapt to the modern age with imagination. They have continued to flourish in the technological culture of the twentieth century; conservative in style and form, but perpetually adaptive to the mood of the times, and still providing alternative readings of reality. Ghosts in fiction were not killed off by the advent of the electric light, the invention of the telephone, the coming of the motor car, or even by the once unthinkable horrors of technological warfare. Instead, they took over the trappings, landscapes, and cultural assumptions of the twentieth century for their ancient purposes, as they had done in the nineteenth, and so continued – against all the odds – to thrive.

Use **ONE** word to fill in each blank for questions 56 - 77. 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. Hyphenated or contracted words count as one.

Version 2

In 1944, the American critic Edmund Wilson (56) _____ that ghost stories still (57) _____ in the age of electricity. Nevertheless, ghosts (58) _____. The usual background of old houses, graveyards and churches is a dark one, but they thrive just as well in a room lit by electricity. We (59) _____ the car and the telephone, but ghost stories have endured and so have their (60) _____ talented authors.

The existence of ghosts has a long history but ghost stories, well-defined (61) _____ of fiction that aim to make (62) _____ enjoy a fright, have a much shorter history. Their basics were developed about (63) _____ ago and since then, these stories have had (64) _____ settings, reflecting the world in which they were written. This was what made them very (65) _____ from similar stories written earlier, which were works of imagination.

Ghost stories usually, but not always, feature people who were (66) _____ but who have returned from the dead. Despite this, they must have a setting that their readers can (67) _____. Many aspects of a ghost story are, in fact, quite ordinary. For a ghost story to work, we must feel that it can actually (68) _____ in our world. The events of the story must be events we can imagine; any supernatural activity must (69) _____ in reality.

The ghost stories of nineteenth century England, therefore, are very much (70) _____ of their time. It was especially frightening, at a time when science and technology were advancing rapidly, to think that the past could enter the present in search of (71) _____. Nineteenth century progress was accompanied by a (72) _____ with death and the afterlife. Ghost stories are a product of this, and they often contain a warning against blind (73) _____ in rational thought, and a less positive view of scientific progress and secularism.

Ghost stories have survived in the modern age by the (74) _____ use of contemporary settings, but there has been little change in the way they are written. Ghost stories have not (75) _____ because of electricity, telephones or cars. Even the (76) _____ horrors of modern warfare have not spelled their end. On the contrary, these tales borrow images and ideas from the twentieth century to carry out their ancient tasks just as they did in the (77) _____.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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Proofread the following article. There is one error in each numbered line. Identify and correct the errors for questions 78 - 98. Do not make any unnecessary changes, or add or delete punctuation marks. Corrections MUST be done EXACTLY as follows.

1. Wrong word: underline the wrong word and write the correct word above it (see example [a]).
2. Extra word: cross out the extra word (see example [b]).
3. Missing word: mark the position of the missing word with a Λ and write the missing word above it (see example [c]).

Volcanic ash halts international flights

a	The eruption of a volcano has caused thousand ^{thousands} of
b	flights to be cancelled resulting in the to ally complete
c	closure of the airline industry Λ Europe.
78	An ash cloud is cover Europe at heights used by
79	the passenger aeroplanes. It is not safe to fly
80	through the cloud as the ash could be damage
81	the engines and caused them to fail.
82	In 1982, the engines on a plane were failed when it flew into
83	an ash cloud over the Indonesia. Reports said that
84	the ash clogged the engines, which could only restarted
85	when enough of the molten ash had solidified and broken out.
86	If the plane had lost thousands feet in altitude,
87	it would have to 'ditch' or land in the sea.
88	To avoid such accident, many flights have been cancelled.
89	There have, therefore, long queues at railway stations
90	as frustrated travellers try to find an alternative to fly.
91	The disruption is most severe ever experienced in Europe.
92	The expansion of low cost airlines mean that flying
93	is often the cheapest way to travel in European cities,
94	even when the distances involved are quiet short.
95	At Iceland, the ash from the volcano is blocking
96	car engines and reduce visibility to just a few metres.
97	People have been told to stay indoor and to wear
98	goggles and a mask if they went outside.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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