


PRACTICE PAPER ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Discussion

The letter below appeared in yesterday's newspaper:

Teens far too materialistic



I think that today's teenagers have a very casual attitude towards material possessions. From the time they are born, they get what they want, even things that are not necessary. And yet they keep demanding more from their parents. It makes no sense to buy things without thinking about the price. What's more, youngsters are easily affected by their peers. If their friends have something new and trendy, they will also want to have it. But they do not consider whether they really need it. Parents should not buy their children too many items that they do not really need. And they should teach them to treasure what they have. They have to set a good example. Young people need to exercise self-control.

Y.L.

Your group wants to write a letter to the editor of the newspaper responding to the points made by Y.L. Discuss with your group what to include in your letter. You may want to talk about:

- whether teenagers are materialistic
- whether teenagers are easily affected by their peers
- how young children should be educated not to be materialistic
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What do teenagers buy that they do not need?
2. What should children spend their money on?
3. What new things do teens all want to have?
4. How can parents teach their children not to become so materialistic?
5. Why do young people want to buy brand name products?
6. What problems can result from becoming too materialistic?
7. Why do some parents give in to their children's demands?
8. How can teenagers develop more self-control over their spending?

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of two parts: Part A, Group Discussion; and Part B, Individual Response. Part B will immediately follow Part A. DO NOT write anything on this page.

PART A Group Discussion

You will be given 10 minutes to prepare. The time allowed for the group discussion is 8 minutes (or 6 minutes for a group of 3 candidates). You may make notes on the notecard provided and refer to your notes during the discussion.

The letter below appeared in yesterday's newspaper:

<p>Teens far too materialistic</p>  <p>I think that today's teenagers have a very casual attitude towards material possessions. From the time they are born, they get what they want, even things that are not necessary. And yet they keep demanding more from their parents. It makes no sense to buy things without thinking about the price. What's more, youngsters are easily affected by their peers. If their friends have something new and trendy, they will also want to have it. But they do not consider whether they really need it. Parents should not buy their children too many items that they do not really need. And they should teach them to treasure what they have. They have to set a good example. Young people need to exercise self-control.</p> <p>Y.L.</p>

Your group wants to write a letter to the editor of the newspaper responding to the points made by Y.L. Discuss with your group what to include in your letter. You may want to talk about:

- whether teenagers are materialistic
- whether teenagers are easily affected by their peers
- how young children should be educated not to be materialistic
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PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

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PART A Group Discussion

Below are two advertisements for part-time summer jobs:

<p>Little Popstars</p> <p>Recruiting Workshop Presenters</p> <p>Do you have a...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• bubbly outgoing personality;• good singing voice;• love of children – ability to interact with all ages;• responsible and positive attitude? <p>The job requires you to run musical workshops for preschool children.</p> <p>Classes are 30-45 minutes in length. Training is provided. \$40 per hour</p> <p>Email jobs@littlepopstars.com for more details.</p>	<p> CHIC  CLOTHING</p> <p>Part-time salesperson wanted for clothing store in TST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">*4 days per week*8-hour shifts (12pm-9pm with one hour lunch break)*good communication skills in English and Cantonese*uniform provided*\$40/hour <p>Contact Ms Chan at 36288070.</p>
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Your group is considering whether to include the two advertised jobs in the 'summer jobs' section of the school magazine. Discuss with your group whether these jobs would be suitable for students. You may want to talk about:

- the skills students would need to do these jobs
- the benefits for students who are employed in these jobs
- other kinds of jobs that may be suitable for students
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What kind of summer part-time job would you like?
2. What kind of job would be a dream job for you?
3. What kind of things do students who have a part-time job spend their money on?
4. Do you think students should do part-time jobs during the summer?
5. What skills can students learn from doing part-time jobs that they can't learn at school?
6. Do you think part-time jobs affect school work?
7. What should you do in order to be successful in a job interview?
8. What kinds of part-time jobs should secondary school students avoid?

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- bubbly outgoing personality;
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The job requires you to run musical workshops for preschool children.

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Email jobs@littlepopstars.com for more details.

 **CHIC** 
CLOTHING

Part-time salesperson
wanted for clothing store in TST

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PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

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PART A Group Discussion

The article below appeared in a local newspaper:

Out of this world



An American who claims that he was taken away by aliens left some members of his Hong Kong audience completely lost. 56-year-old market researcher Jim Sparks was invited to speak by the Hong Kong UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) Club.

Sparks said aliens first abducted him in 1988 when he was a property developer. He said, 'I had a good business and a good life when one day I was pulled from my bed into an alien spacecraft.' At first he refused to co-operate with the aliens. But as the years passed, he got to understand more about them and even seemed to have won the trust of the aliens. 'They know us better as a person than we know ourselves. Not only can they read our minds, they also have the technology to be invisible,' Sparks insists.

While many of the audience listened quietly, some had clearly had enough. One of those who headed for the door said, 'He's a pretty good storyteller because he seems so sincere, but for me it's too much like science-fiction.'

You want to write an article discussing whether you think aliens exist. Discuss with your group what you will include in the article. You may want to talk about:

- whether there is life on other planets
- whether you believe that aliens have visited Earth
- whether aliens would be a threat or a benefit to our planet
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What do you think aliens would look like?
2. Do you enjoy watching movies about aliens?
3. Would you believe someone if they said they had met an alien?
4. What information about human beings do you think might be useful for aliens to learn?
5. Is it worth spending money on trying to locate alien life in the universe?
6. If there are no aliens, why do so many people claim to have met them?
7. If there were aliens, what would they think about human life on earth?
8. What positive outcomes could result from learning about alien culture?

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