

Extended response questions

Answer *one* question only.

1. Consider the following source:

An extract from a newspaper report dated 28 September 2017

Ten-year-old Jade grew up watching Cantonese opera with her grandmother. 'When I watched Cantonese opera with my grandmother, I thought the headpieces, costumes, and songs were all very special, so I started to like it.'

The chief executive of the Cantonese Opera Academy of Hong Kong believes that appealing to the younger generation is important to preserve the viability of the traditional Chinese art form. She believes Cantonese opera helps preserve our cultural heritage. 'We are actually preserving a lot of the traditional mindset. More than just preserving the messages in the opera itself, we also want to [preserve] the whole tradition and culture of performing Cantonese opera.'

The director of the Cha Duk Chang Children's Cantonese Opera Association wants to make the subject matter more relevant to teens. 'Cantonese opera is supposed to mirror real life, but our lives today differ greatly from the historical stories in the opera,' she said. 'The older generation used to read these stories, listen to them on the radio, and at night there would be an operatic performance on the same theme; it was truly a part of their life. That's why Cantonese opera is like pop music to them.' Her organisation writes Cantonese operas that have themes and messages that connect with kids, such as an opera about a fairy who fails his exams, and must be exiled to Earth to learn from human children.

- (a) Explain the difficulties in preserving Cantonese opera in Hong Kong. (8 marks)
- (b) 'Intangible cultural heritage can make important contributions to contemporary life in Hong Kong.' To what extent do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. (12 marks)

2. Consider the following sources:

Source A: An extract from a newspaper report dated 22 October 2018

In a letter to private entrepreneurs, President Xi Jinping wrote in recognition of the enthusiastic involvement of private enterprises in alleviating poverty. He said that private enterprises have played an important part in stabilising growth, facilitating innovation, increasing employment and improving livelihood in the 40 years of reform and opening-up. He hoped private entrepreneurs could work together for a better tomorrow for the private economy.

Source B: Adapted from newspaper reports dated 22 October and 5 November 2018

The private economy accounts for 60% of China's gross domestic product and 80% of jobs. President Xi Jinping said it was always a policy of the Communist Party of China to support the development of the private economy while offering similar support to state-owned enterprises.

However, private enterprises are often treated as second-class corporate citizens when it comes to obtaining support from the state banking system, and the state-owned sector is often given preferential treatment by the government.

Source C: Adapted from a newspaper report dated 3 October 2018

China's state-owned enterprises increasingly account for growth in industrial production and profits. In the industrial sector, state-owned enterprises saw their profits grow three times as fast as those in the private sector in the first seven months of 2018. At the same time, China has stepped up regulation of private enterprises engaging in online commerce and real estate. Private enterprises could face higher taxes and employee benefit costs.

- (a) Explain the possible hindrances to the development of private enterprises in China. (8 marks)
- (b) Should state-owned enterprises play a more dominant role than private enterprises in the economic development of China in the global economy? Justify your view. (12 marks)

3. Consider the following sources:

Source A: An extract from the winning submission for the US Smart City Challenge 2017

The City of Columbus in the US put forward an impressive, holistic vision for how technology could help all residents move better and access economic and social opportunities.

The City of Columbus proposed a comprehensive, integrated smart city plan addressing challenges in residential, commercial, freight, and downtown districts. To achieve this, the plan proposed the use of a number of technologies, including electronically networked infrastructure, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, an integrated data platform, self-driving vehicles, etc. Columbus plans to work closely with residents, community and business leaders, and technical experts to implement the plan.

Source B: Adapted from a newspaper report dated 5 June 2016

An Indian environment activist questioned her government's smart city project, saying it was being implemented in areas which are already developed.

Referring to one of the smart cities to be developed by the Indian government, she said '... This is India's biggest upper-class community. Smart city was a good idea. But the government decided to invest in its own area [i.e. an area where the main government buildings are located] which is already very environmentally clean.' 'It is creating a huge difference between this developed area and the rest of the world. This idea is creating a global view that we should only ensure cleanliness of our own backyard.'

- (a) Explain the possible impact of smart city development on the use of energy resources. (8 marks)
- (b) To what extent could smart city development bring about a more sustainable society? Justify your view. (12 marks)

END OF PAPER

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