

LIBERAL STUDIES (HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS) AS-LEVEL

8.30 am – 11.00 am (2½ hours)

This paper must be answered in English

1. This paper consists of **Section 1** and **Section 2**. Section 1 carries 75% of the module marks, and Section 2 carries 25%.
2. **Section 1** consists of three questions, *all* of which are to be answered. **Section 2** consists of four questions, of which candidates may attempt any *one*.
3. Each question carries 25 marks: 20 marks for content and 5 marks for effective communication.
4. 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.

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

SECTION 1

Answer *all* the questions in this section.

1. Susan is a Secondary 7 student about to take the Advanced Level Examinations. One day she sees something while surfing online.

Source A: An online advertisement

Do you want to be a **Superstar**?
Come and talk to us!
We can make you tomorrow's superstar!
No fees needed.

Prepare yourself for the **FANS**!
Prepare yourself for the **GLAMOUROUS LIFE**!

Please click here for an appointment

Source B: Susan talks to her best friend, Kitty, about the advertisement

Susan: Look what I've found!

Kitty: Oh! Be a superstar? You're kidding.

Susan: How wonderful! You know I like singing. Imagine standing on the stage all dressed up, and singing to my fans! I'll be different. People will love me!

Kitty: Wake up, Susan. It's not that easy. You're busy enough now. You'd better spend your time on revision; the A-levels are coming!

Susan: It's always A-levels! I can't go shopping because of A-levels. I can't go to karaoke anymore because of A-levels. Not everyone needs to go to university!

Kitty: I agree. But please be honest with yourself. Are you choosing not to go to university or are you just being irresponsible?

- (a) Identify the different reactions of Susan and Kitty to the advertisement. Why do you think they have different reactions? (10 marks)
- (b) You are the career guidance teacher in the school. How would you help Susan to decide whether or not going to university is the right choice for her? (10 marks)

2. Here is a conversation between 14-year-old Zita and her parents.

Dad: Here are brochures from some of the best schools in the USA. Please read them and prepare for interviews.

Zita: The USA? I'm going to the USA?

Mom: Yes, next year. You'd better make up your mind about which schools you like. There's a lot to prepare.

Zita: But I don't want to go! All my friends are here!

Dad: We've worked very hard to pay for you to attend these famous schools. They're so expensive. You can get to know important people and get a good job when you graduate!

Mom: We love you. That's why we've worked very hard, so that we can send you overseas!

Zita: Why didn't you talk to me about this before? You two are never at home! And when you do come back, you tell me you're sending me away!

Dad: Oh, we know what's best for you. Come on, read the brochures and tell us which schools you like.

- (a) What do you think may be the causes of the above conflict between Zita and her parents? (10 marks)
- (b) Suggest ways in which Zita could persuade her parents to change their minds without harming her relationship with them. (10 marks)

3. Consider the following article about women in Hong Kong.

Some of the city's most accomplished women believe the soaring social status of Hong Kong women comes at a high price. They say that high positions invariably mean staying single.

Film director Barbara Wong Chun-chun, who made the award-winning documentary *Women's Private Parts* about female sexuality, said, "Compared with their counterparts in other Asian countries, women in Hong Kong enjoy the highest social status, especially in the working environment. There's almost no discrimination against women in Hong Kong. If you are capable, you can climb high; whereas in Japan, it's hard for women to find work if they are in their 30s or 40s. But the traditional mindset hasn't changed in Hong Kong. It's okay for wives to sit at home waiting for their busy husbands but not the other way round."

Qi Qi, voted Model of the Year in January by *South China Morning Post* readers, agreed that, in terms of women's status, Hong Kong is the most advanced society in Asia. However, Hong Kong people are still Chinese, no matter how westernised they have become.

Feng shui master Mak Ling-ling observed that marriage continues to enjoy high priority among women. She said that 19 out of 20 clients who consulted her were females seeking advice about their relationships.

Singer Kelly Chen Wai-lam said that modern women should let go of the marriage idea because marriage is not necessary for happiness.

- (a) How important do you think marriage is to women in Hong Kong today? Explain your answer with reference to the above article. (10 marks)
- (b) How far do you think the above article reflects the real situation concerning women's status in Hong Kong? (10 marks)

SECTION 2

Answer *one* question from this section.

4. Raves are quite popular among local young people. They are all-night dance events where DJs and other performers play electronic rave music, and dancing continues until dawn.

Source A: Report on raves in Hong Kong

Nine in every 10 youngsters attending a rave either in Hong Kong or across the border are likely to have taken recreational drugs.

Of these, one in every 13 is likely to be involved in sexual activities during or after the rave while one in 19 is likely to be involved in a fight, according to a survey conducted by the Chinese University of Hong Kong between September 2004 and March 2005. The survey covered 300 respondents aged between 14 and 28.

An Associate Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong said the widespread use of 'party drugs' brings with it other dangers such as unprotected sex, fights and car races.

Source B: A gentler way to fight recreational drug use

Recreational drug use is the most serious problem among young people participating in raves. Social workers are trying hard to tackle this consequence of the popularity of raves.

Chu Fung, a Hong Kong Caritas social worker, commented that communication is an important tool. He said, "They can get really bored during the long hours they spend at discos and they want to talk. That's when social workers can build relationships with them through conversation. We try to dissuade them from drug use by giving them medical and objective points of view. Hopefully, this will have an impact on them over time and lead them to reconsider their actions."

- (a) Discuss why young people participate in raves. (10 marks)
- (b) You are a social worker at a secondary school and believe that some students often go to raves. What could you do to help them minimize the risks they may encounter there? (10 marks)

5. Kelvin is working on a school project called 'Hong Kong People'. His teacher asked him to comment on Hong Kong people's civic-mindedness based on the items he collected. He submitted the following item:

Item A: A poster showing a fixed penalty for littering

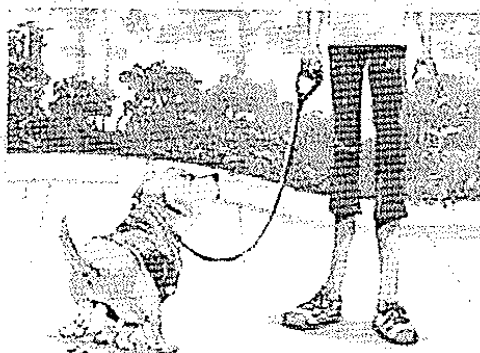
亂拋垃圾一律罰款1,500元
A Fixed Penalty of \$1,500 for Littering



吐痰在廢紙箱內
Spitting into a litter container



吐痰在路邊溝渠
Spitting into a road gully



沒有清理狗隻糞便
Failure to clean up your dog's faeces



將垃圾投入路邊竹籬或紙盒
Depositing litter into wicker baskets or uncovered carton boxes

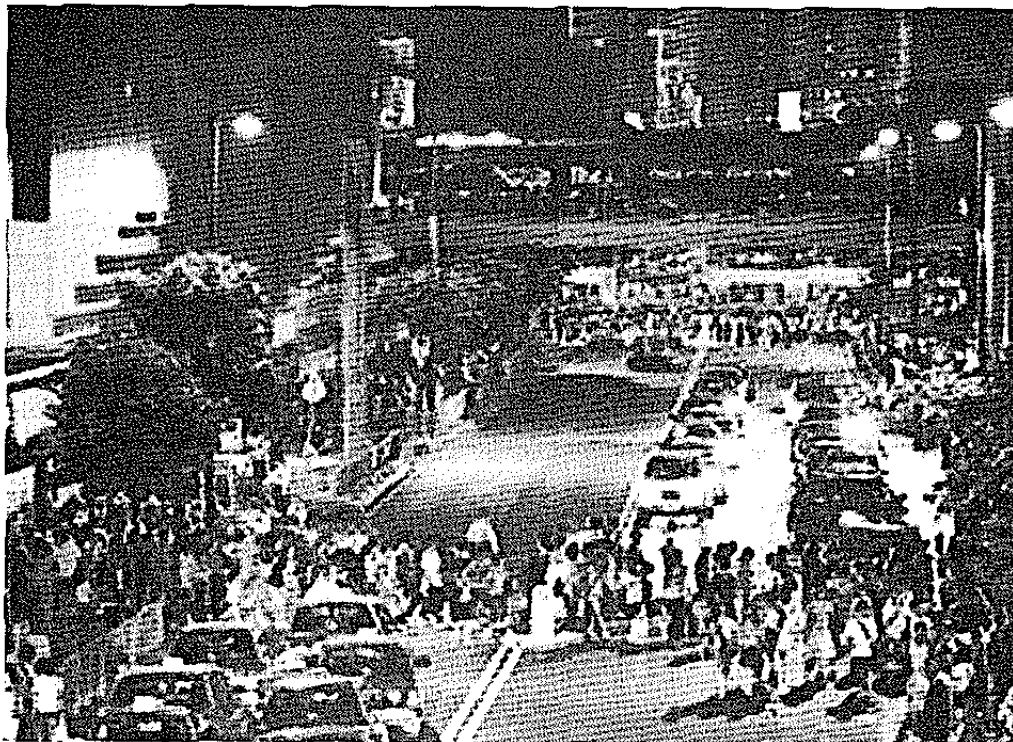
任何人士在香港的公眾地方亂拋垃圾、隨地吐痰、非法張貼街招及海報或容許狗隻糞便弄污街道，都會被罰港幣1,500元。

Anyone who commits such offences as littering, spitting, unauthorised display of bills and posters, or fouling of streets by dog faeces in public places in Hong Kong shall be liable to a fixed penalty of HK\$1,500.

**亂拋垃圾
定額罰款
\$1,500
已經實施**

**LITTERING FIXED PENALTY \$1,500
NOW IN EFFECT**

Item B: A photo showing long queues outside the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre during the book exhibition in July 2006



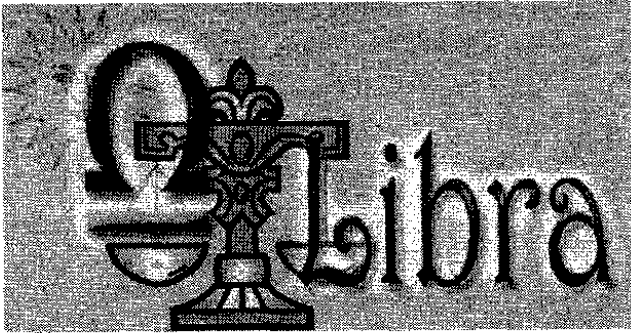
Item C: Kelvin's blog

Today I finally had the chance to use the emergency pull in an MTR compartment! During the rush hour this morning, a man rushed into the train when the doors were closing, and as a result he was caught in the door! I was reading when I heard him call for help. I looked up and saw him, but no one did a thing. He was shouting and people were waiting for someone to take action... so I stood up and ...

To what extent do the above three items reflect the civic-mindedness of Hong Kong people? If you could add one item to Kelvin's collection to further reflect the civic-mindedness of Hong Kong people, what would you add? Explain your answer based on the sources and your own experiences. (20 marks)

6. Wing Yee is a secondary student. The column below is her favourite column in a weekly magazine. She believes what is written in the column, and likes to read similar columns.

The Zodiac



(24 September to 23 October)

Traditional Libra Traits	On the dark side....
Diplomatic and polite	Indecisive and changeable
Romantic and charming	Easily influenced and cheated
Easygoing and sociable	Proud and self-centred
Idealistic and peace-loving	

Advice for this week:
Try to visit a country that excites you. You may be thinking of starting your own business. Changes will not be easy for young people.

- (a) Some secondary students, like Wing Yee, spend a lot of time reading magazine columns such as the one above. Discuss why such columns are popular with some secondary students. (10 marks)
- (b) One of Wing Yee's friends is concerned about Wing Yee's obsession with these columns. Suggest ways in which she can help Wing Yee to become less reliant on such columns. (10 marks)

7. Here are some tips about relationships offered by a popular online search engine.

Source A: How to keep your boyfriend

1. Communicate (talk) with him, and be open with him about anything and everything.
2. Trust him in every way, even if he lies or keeps secrets from you.
3. Always be honest with him. Never ever lie to him or keep secrets from him.
4. Support him through thick and thin. Just be there for him in any way you can.
5. Respect him. Don't hurt or neglect him.
6. Make time for him and make him a priority in your life.
7. Apologize, forgive, and make amends frequently.

Source B: How to keep your girlfriend

1. Call her at least once a day, just to talk. No girl wants to be forgotten for a whole day.
2. Listen to her attentively when she talks.
3. Remember her likes and dislikes.
4. Compliment her as often as possible, and try to be original.
5. Buy her flowers sometimes. Girls like roses, particularly red roses, but variety is nice too.
6. Do some things you like to do (play computer games, go cycling, etc.), and also do some things she likes to do (see a movie, go shopping, etc.).
7. Buy her things that are meaningful and that she likes.

- (a) Discuss how the two genders are perceived in Sources A and B. (10 marks)
- (b) From the above sources, select two tips that you consider very important and two that you consider not so important for maintaining a good relationship. Explain your choices. (10 marks)

END OF PAPER

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.