

LIBERAL STUDIES PAPER 1

8:30 am – 10:30 am (2 hours)
This paper must be answered in English

- (1) This paper consists of three questions. **Answer ALL questions.**
- (2) The Question-Answer Book is inserted into this Question Paper. Write your answers in the spaces provided in the **Question-Answer Book**. Answers written in this Question Paper will **NOT** be marked.
- (3) Do not write in the margins. Answers written in the margins will not be marked.
- (4) After the announcement of the start of the examination, you should first write your Candidate Number in the space provided on Page 1 of the Question-Answer Book and stick barcode labels in the spaces provided on Pages 1, 3 and 5.
- (5) Supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number, mark the question number box and stick a barcode label on each sheet, and fasten them with string **INSIDE** the Question-Answer Book.
- (6) No extra time will be given to candidates for sticking on the barcode labels or filling in the question number boxes after the 'Time is up' announcement.
- (7) 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.

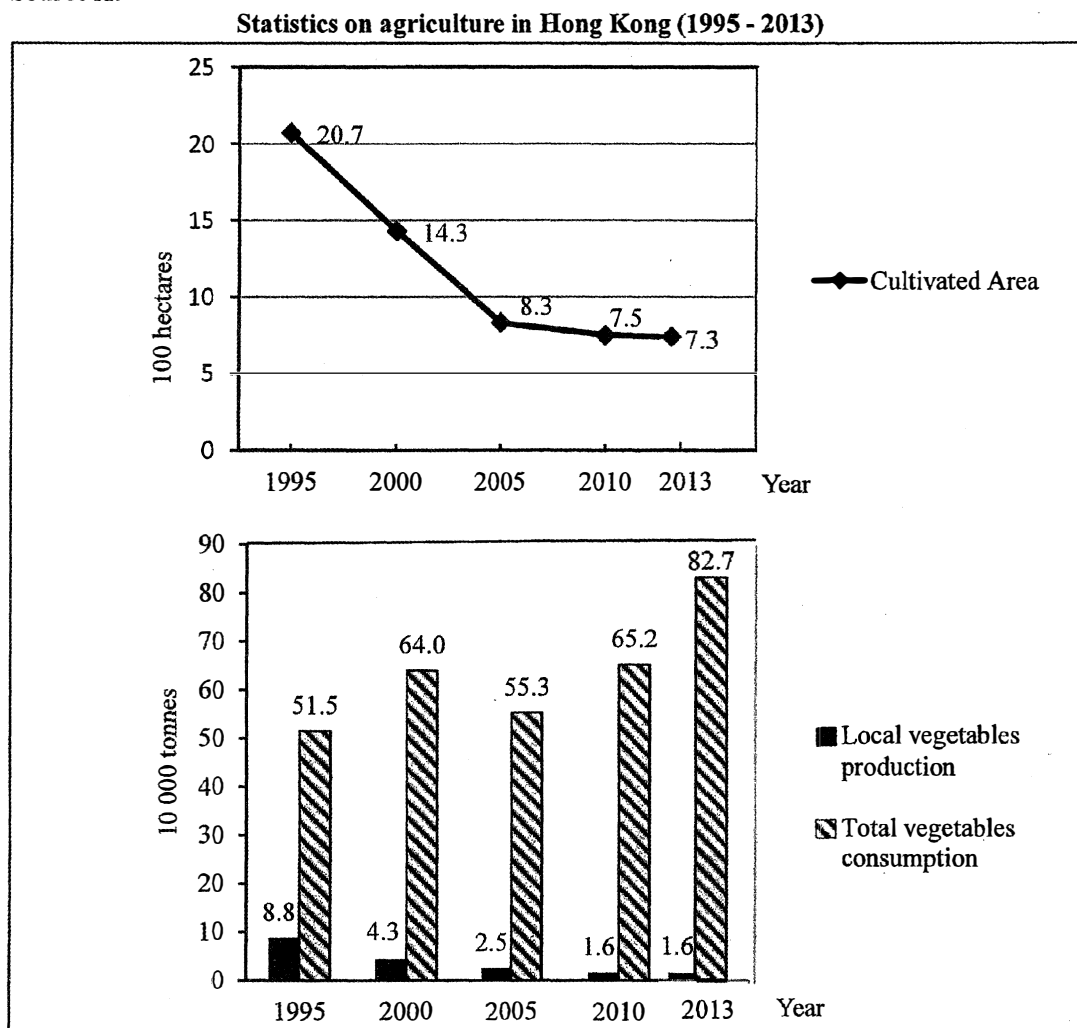
Not to be taken away before the end of the examination session

Data-response Questions

Answer *all* the questions in this paper.

1. Consider the following sources:

Source A:



Source B: An extract from a newspaper report dated 2 April 2015

Of the 4 523 hectares of agricultural land in Hong Kong, only 729 hectares are actively farmed. Many farmers have abandoned their land, sold it to developers or taken up better-paid work. Yet with growing awareness of the concepts of land conservation and green living, perhaps mixed with a longing for food from home soil, calls to revive agriculture have emerged.

As a college graduate, Mr Chow would be expected to find a white-collar job. Instead, he opted to take up farming in a remote part of Lantau Island. He earns a salary of only HK\$8 000 a month. His boss admits that recruiting new blood is a big problem.

Source C: Adapted from a research study

Nowadays, many cities in the world are facing problems of the urban heat island effect* and a lack of green space. Some cities are trying to enhance sustainability by improving urban greenery and promoting urban farming, in which all related processes are conducted in the city.

In fact, green roofs can provide 'farmland' for local vegetable and food production. Most green roofs in the world today are created to provide attractive green spaces, to reduce the urban heat island effect, to manage rainwater flows, or to save energy used for cooling.

In Hong Kong, green roofs have attracted much attention in recent years. Since 2012, Hong Kong has completed more than 50 roof-greening projects in government-owned buildings and schools, with another 25 projects underway. Some schools and housing estates have been organising family farming activities on their own urban farms.

* The urban heat island effect refers to the phenomenon that temperatures in built-up urban areas are higher than those in the surrounding areas.

- (a) Describe the trends in agriculture in Hong Kong as shown in Source A. (4 marks)
- (b) From Sources A and B, identify and explain *two* factors that might be influencing the current development of agriculture in Hong Kong. (6 marks)
- (c) 'Urban farming will improve the quality of life of people in Hong Kong.' Explain how the sources support this claim. (8 marks)

2. Consider the following sources:

Source A:

Democracy Index and Global Competitiveness Index* of Hong Kong in 2014

Table A1: Democracy Index in 2014					
Overall Index		Selected categories			
Rank (out of 167)	Score (as % of the maximum score)	Electoral process	Functioning of government	Political participation	Civil liberties (e.g. freedom of speech, freedom of assembly)
		Score (as % of the maximum score)			
66	65	48	57	56	94

Table A2: Global Competitiveness Index in 2014				
Overall Index		Sub-indexes		
Rank (out of 140)	Score (as % of the maximum score)	Basic requirements (e.g. institutions**, infrastructure, electricity supply)	Efficiency enhancers (e.g. higher education and training, financial market development)	Innovation and sophistication factors (e.g. technological knowledge)
		Score (as % of the maximum score)		
7	79	89	80	69

* The Global Competitiveness Index ranks the competitiveness of 140 economies, based on over 100 indicators. Competitiveness is the set of institutions, policies, and factors that determine the level of productivity of an economy.

** Institutions provide the legal and administrative framework within which individuals, firms, and governments interact to generate wealth.

Source B:

Democracy Index and Global Competitiveness Index in 2014

	Democracy Index (Rank out of 167)	Global Competitiveness Index (Rank out of 140)
Switzerland	6	1
United States	19	3
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	66	7
Singapore	75	2
Ethiopia	124	109
China	144	28

Source C: The composition of the Election Committee for the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)

The Composition of the Election Committee for the Chief Executive of the HKSAR (2012)		
Sector		No. of members
Industrial, commercial and financial sectors		300
The professions		300
Labour, social services, religious and other sectors		300
Members of the Legislative Council, representatives of members of the District Councils, representatives of the Heung Yee Kuk, Hong Kong deputies to the National People's Congress, and representatives of Hong Kong members of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference		300

The Composition of the Legislative Council (2012)		
Type of Seats		No. of seats
Geographical Constituency seats	The seats were elected through direct election by about 3.47 million registered electors.	35
Functional Constituency seats	The seats were elected by about 240 700 eligible electors from the Functional Constituencies.	30
	The seats were from the District Councils, with candidates nominated by elected District Councillors and voted by about 3.22 million registered electors who did not get a vote in the Functional Constituency elections.	5

- (a) Describe Hong Kong's performance in democracy and in global competitiveness as shown in Source A. (4 marks)
- (b) Source B shows the rankings of the Democracy Index and that of the Global Competitiveness Index. Do you think that there are any relationships between the two rankings? Explain your answer using Source B. (4 marks)
- (c) 'A more representative composition of the Election Committee for the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council would enhance the global competitiveness of Hong Kong.' Do you agree with this view? Explain your answer with reference to the sources provided and your own knowledge. (8 marks)

3. Consider the following sources:

Source A:

Regional statistics for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (2012)

Region	People living with HIV		Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita (US\$)	Adult Literacy Rate (%)
	15 years old and above (as % of total population)	Under 15 years old (as % of total population)		
Africa (excluding North Africa)	22.1 million (2.60%)	2.9 million (0.34%)	1 306.8	60.4
South and South-East Asia	3.7 million (0.16%)	0.2 million (0.01%)	5 891.6	78.9
Western and Central Europe	0.9 million (0.14%)	0.0 million (0.00%)	34 860.5	97.9

Source B: Some information about Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) damages the human body's ability to fight diseases and may lead to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). As a result, the body cannot defend itself against infections and cancers. HIV may be transmitted through sexual contact, blood contact and mother to child infection. However, people do not get HIV through air or social contact.

Access to prevention, care, and treatment for people living with HIV or at risk of HIV varies from region to region, and there is not yet a cure for HIV. However, treatment with anti-HIV drugs can control the virus and reduce the risk of transmitting the virus to others. According to the World Health Organization, most newly infected children in 2013 living in Africa (excluding North Africa) were infected by their HIV-positive mothers during pregnancy, childbirth or breastfeeding. Of people living with HIV in the world today, 54.3% do not know that they have the virus.

Currently, the global investment on HIV vaccine research, including industry and research agencies in developed countries, has been estimated at approximately US\$500 million per year. Despite the investment in research, the drugs to control HIV are still expensive, costing US\$115-330 per patient per year.

Source C: Adapted from a cartoon on the Internet



- (a) Describe the pattern of HIV infection as shown in Source A. (4 marks)
- (b) HIV is a global problem. From the sources provided, identify and explain *two* difficulties in tackling this global problem. (7 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.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

- (b) From Sources A and B, identify and explain *two* factors that might be influencing the current development of agriculture in Hong Kong. (6 marks)

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(c) 'Urban farming will improve the quality of life of people in Hong Kong.' Explain how the sources support this claim. (8 marks)

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(b) Source B shows the rankings of the Democracy Index and that of the Global Competitiveness Index. Do you think that there are any relationships between the two rankings? Explain your answer using Source B. (4 marks)

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- (c) 'A more representative composition of the Election Committee for the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council would enhance the global competitiveness of Hong Kong.' Do you agree with this view? Explain your answer with reference to the sources provided and your own knowledge. (8 marks)

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3. (a) Describe the pattern of HIV infection as shown in Source A.

(4 marks)

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- (b) HIV is a global problem. From the sources provided, identify and explain *two* difficulties in tackling this global problem. (7 marks)

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