PRACTICE PAPER
LIBERAL STUDIES    PAPER 1

(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.
Data-response Questions

1. Consider the following sources:

**Source A**

An idling engine ban came into force in Hong Kong on 15 December 2011. It stipulates a fine of HK$320 for drivers leaving an engine switched on for more than three minutes in total within an hour after the vehicle is brought to a halt.

Some news reporters conducted a test on the levels of carbon monoxide (an air pollutant from vehicles) at idling engine hotspots, the day before and the day after the implementation of the ban. The following are some of the findings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Average carbon monoxide level between 7pm and 9pm (micrograms per cubic metre of air)</th>
<th>Maximum carbon monoxide level between 7pm and 9pm (micrograms per cubic metre of air)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 December 2011</td>
<td>16 December 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tung Choi Street, Mongkok</td>
<td>7 469</td>
<td>5 252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 139</td>
<td>10 853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fa Yuen Street, Mongkok</td>
<td>3 034</td>
<td>3 851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 668</td>
<td>8 402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockhart Road, Causeway Bay</td>
<td>4 551</td>
<td>3 384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 753</td>
<td>7 235</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source B:** An extract from a newspaper report dated 5 June 2012

A drivers’ concern group has characterised the idling engine ban as a “toothless tiger”. Not so, said the Environmental Protection Department, pointing out that there have been 180 warnings even though no penalty tickets have been issued so far. A spokesperson for the department insists the ban is effective since drivers turn off their engines once they spot the approach of a police officer.

However, a local shop owner said he has not seen a noticeable change in drivers’ behaviour. “Some drivers even stay in their vehicles so they can enjoy the air-conditioning during meal breaks,” he said. A driver said the ban would improve air quality but is difficult to enforce. “You cannot turn off the engine on a hot day while waiting, especially if there are children in the car.”

The chairman of the Taxi and Public Light Bus Concern Group said the three-minute rule leaves plenty of room for disputes between drivers and the authorities. However, he believes the ban can stop drivers from sleeping in their vehicles.

Under the law, taxis at stands and the first two minibuses at terminals are exempt. Vehicles operated by welfare agencies to carry the elderly or operate as mobile clinics are also exempt. All drivers are exempt when very hot weather or rainstorm warnings are in force.
(a) Compare the carbon monoxide level data on the two days shown in Source A. (4 marks)

(b) ‘The idling engine ban is “a toothless tiger”.’ To what extent do you agree with this view? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B and your own knowledge. (8 marks)

(c) Suggest and explain THREE ways to enhance the effectiveness of the idling engine ban in Hong Kong. (8 marks)
2. Consider the following sources:

**Source A:** An extract from a newspaper report dated 6 April 2012

In a case of illegal trading of human organs on the mainland, a teenager sold a kidney so that he could buy a smart phone and a tablet computer.

The teenager was from one of the mainland’s poorest provinces, where inhabitants frequently leave to find work and a better life elsewhere. He bought a smart phone and a tablet computer, and when asked by his mother where he got the money, admitted selling a kidney. Such electronic products are highly popular on the mainland, but are priced beyond the reach of many people on the mainland. The case is causing alarm on the mainland as citizens worry about increasing consumerism, particularly among the young. One commentator wrote, “This teenager’s stupid behaviour shows his materialistic values.”

The mainland has banned the trading of human organs since 2007. Statistics from the Ministry of Health showed that about 1.5 million people on the mainland need transplants, but only around 10,000 transplants are performed annually because of the lack of legally available organs. Consequently, some patients turn to the black market to obtain human organs.

In 2008, an international summit meeting noted that with the increasing use of the Internet and the willingness of patients in rich countries to travel and purchase organs, the illegal trading of human organs has become a global problem. A joint declaration was made by the delegates to try to combat the problem.

**Source B**

(a) From Source A, identify and explain THREE factors that are contributing to the illegal trading of human organs on the mainland. (6 marks)

(b) ‘Illegal trading of human organs is the dark side of globalization.’ Explain how Sources A and B support this view. (8 marks)
3. Consider the following extract of a survey report (published in 2012) on young people aged 15-24 in Hong Kong:

Table 1:  The leisure activities that young people most commonly participate in
(Respondents were asked to indicate three leisure activities)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leisure Activity</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Browsing the Internet</td>
<td>65.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watching television</td>
<td>38.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shopping</td>
<td>37.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home audio-visual entertainment (such as listening to music, watching movies)</td>
<td>27.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing electronic games</td>
<td>19.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports activities</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going to the cinema</td>
<td>14.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and cultural activities</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karaoke singing</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowing books from the library</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating in interest classes</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doing voluntary work</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2:  Participation rates of young people in charitable activities and social participation activities in the previous three months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Often</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charitable activities (such as volunteer services, fund-raising, donating money, donating blood, etc.)</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>37.8%</td>
<td>33.0%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social participation activities (such as forums, public assemblies and public marches, etc.)</td>
<td>58.0%</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) What do you think might be the impacts of the pattern of participation in activities shown in Tables 1 and 2 on the personal growth of young people in Hong Kong? Identify and explain TWO impacts.  
(6 marks)

(b) ‘The level of participation of young people in Hong Kong community affairs will be raised through the introduction of the Senior Secondary Liberal Studies curriculum.’ To what extent do you agree with this view? Explain your answer.  
(8 marks)

END OF PAPER

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Practice Papers published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.
1. (a) Compare the carbon monoxide level data on the two days shown in Source A. (4 marks)

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(b) ‘The idling engine ban is “a toothless tiger”.’ To what extent do you agree with this view? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B and your own knowledge. (8 marks)

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(c) Suggest and explain THREE ways to enhance the effectiveness of the idling engine ban in Hong Kong. 

(8 marks)
2. (a) From Source A, identify and explain THREE factors that are contributing to the illegal trading of human organs on the mainland. (6 marks)
(b) ‘Illegal trading of human organs is the dark side of globalization.’ Explain how Sources A and B support this view. (8 marks)
Answers written in the margins will not be marked.
3. (a) What do you think might be the impacts of the pattern of participation in activities shown in Tables 1 and 2 on the personal growth of young people in Hong Kong? Identify and explain TWO impacts.

(6 marks)
(b) ‘The level of participation of young people in Hong Kong community affairs will be raised through the introduction of the Senior Secondary Liberal Studies curriculum.’ To what extent do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. (8 marks)
Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

END OF PAPER
Do not write on this page.

Answers written on this page will not be marked.
PRACTICE PAPER
LIBERAL STUDIES     PAPER 2

(1½ hours)
This paper must be answered in English

(1) This paper consists of three questions. Answer ONE question only.

(2) Write your answers in the Answer Book provided. Answers written in this Question Paper will NOT be marked.

(3) 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.
Extended response questions

Answer one question only.

1. Consider the following extract from a redevelopment plan in Sheung Wan proposed by the Urban Renewal Authority:

   **Project Overview:**
   The area in the redevelopment plan contains 33 buildings, mostly built in the 1950s and 1960s, and 4 pre-war buildings. Most of the buildings are in a state of disrepair. The general living environment is poor, and the area lacks community facilities and public open space.

   Key features of the Master Layout Plan include the preservation and adaptive re-use of the pre-war buildings, preservation of the characteristics of the existing street hawker activities nearby, provision of a two-storey wet market trade complex to accommodate wet market shop operators now operating in the project, and creation of an Old Shop Street. The project will also provide a multi-purpose community hall and more public open space.

   To relieve the traffic congestion and pedestrian flow in the area, no car parking spaces will be provided for private cars. Only a loading bay will be provided.

   **Consultation Activities:**
   - The Urban Renewal Authority collected opinions from District Council members, local community leaders, conservation experts, and representatives of local residents and hawkers;
   - A series of briefings were held for the residents and shop operators affected, explaining the progress of the project and arrangements for compensation and re-housing;
   - A social service team has been appointed to assist residents affected by the project, especially to the elderly, physically handicapped, new arrivals, and single-parent families.

   (a) What conflicts might arise among different stakeholders from the implementation of redevelopment plans in Hong Kong such as the one described in the above source? Explain your answer. (10 marks)

   (b) A youth organisation conducted a course for young people to learn how to analyse policies on redevelopment. The organisation was of the opinion that the participation of young people in redevelopment projects is necessary. Discuss what impact young people’s participation in redevelopment projects may have on themselves and on the Hong Kong community. (10 marks)
2. Consider the following extract from a webpage:

A US environmental organisation, recently conducted an analysis of 20 foods. The most environmentally friendly foods were found to be tomatoes, milk, dried beans, bean curd and broccoli.

The most environmentally unfriendly was found to be lamb. For each kilogram of lamb produced, 39.2 kilograms of greenhouse gases are released. The second most environmentally unfriendly was found to be beef.

Why do meat production processes generate so much carbon emission? It is because the digestive process of some animals (for example, cattle and sheep), the production process of animal feed and so on, all emit greenhouse gases.

If you are enthusiastic about environmental conservation, how can you continue to extensively consume steak, pork chops and lamb chops? Why not change to eating fruit and vegetables to save the Earth?

(a) ‘In Hong Kong, going against dominant trends in society is impossible.’ Do you agree with this view? Using the habit of meat-eating in Hong Kong as an example, justify your view.

(b) Suggest and explain some measures that might be adopted by the Hong Kong government to cultivate environmentally friendly eating habits.
3. Consider the following sources:

**Source A**

Trend of Hong Kong Economy

- Asian financial crisis
- U.S. minibonds storm
- Eurozone debt crisis

**Source B:** An extract from a newspaper report dated 22 March 2012

According to the data of a news agency, Hong Kong is the world’s best place for business. Its strength lies not only in the free market and the low taxation policy, but also in its location as a gateway to Mainland China. Factors accounting for the ranking include the costs of starting a business, the costs of labour and goods transportation, the inflation and corruption situation, the proportion of the middle class, the household consumption expenditure and the per capita Gross Domestic Product.

The agency pointed out that due to the strength of Hong Kong, many enterprises naturally select to do business here. For example, the General Electric Company and other international brands have established operations in Hong Kong. HSBC Holdings and other financial giants have also been listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange. They see Hong Kong as a base to reach the markets of Mainland China and other Asian regions. However, Hong Kong still faces many challenges — the gap between rich and poor in Hong Kong is the biggest in Asia; the land suitable for development is less than 25% of the total land area; the discontent of low-income households runs high; and property prices are soaring.

(a) ‘Economic globalization brings more good than harm to the quality of life of people in Hong Kong.’ Do you agree with this view? Explain your answer.  

(b) Facing the competition from other regions and the challenges within Hong Kong, how can Hong Kong maintain its prosperity? Explain your answer.

END OF PAPER

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Practice Papers* published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Material from the following publications/web-sites has been used in question papers in this volume:


South China Morning Post  “Idling ban makes a difference”, 23 September 2011

The Daily Star  “Five charged after Chinese teen sells kidney to buy iPhone”  <http://www.dailystar.com.lb>, 6 April 2012

The Standard  “Idling ban fails to deliver for drivers”, 5 June 2012

Urban Renewal Authority  <http://www.ura.org.hk>

大公报  「香港膺全球最佳經商地」, 2012 年 3 月 22 日

星島日報  「羊肉牛肉最不環保」, 2011 年 10 月 11 日


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