

HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

HKDSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**TEXT SELECTION CRITERIA FOR THE
SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT COMPONENT**

TEXT SELECTION CRITERIA

Schools should refer to the following criteria when recommending texts to students:

1. The texts must be of a language level that will suit the range of ability in Secondary 4 to Secondary 6 classes. Students should be able to read / view them on their own without too much help from teachers.
2. They must be of some educational or moral value, have a reasonably positive attitude and be unlikely to cause offence to any members of the community.
3. The content must be suitable for the age group concerned.
4. The texts should not be too culturally unfamiliar, but have some relevance to the lives and experience of the students.
5. They should be likely to interest students so that the act of reading / viewing them should be pleasurable and possibly inspire further reading and viewing.
6. The length of the texts may vary but there should be sufficient material for students to comment on and reflect upon in preparation for the oral assessment.
7. The print texts should be in English and can be either original works or simplified versions. The soundtracks of non-print texts should also be in English although there may be Chinese subtitles.
8. Overall, the texts should be supportive of the aims of the *English Language and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4-5)* jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority.

NOTE: For the purpose of the SBA component, a text is defined as a piece of written or audiovisual material. Students need to read / view two to four texts over the course of three years, which include print fiction, print non-fiction, non-print fiction, and non-print non-fiction. Teachers / students should refer to the text selection criteria in determining whether a text is appropriate. They should choose texts that are appropriate in terms of length and level of difficulty for senior secondary students.

NOTES ON COPYRIGHT AND END-USER AGREEMENT

The use of films and documentaries is recommended in the New Senior Secondary English Language Curriculum because it provides an authentic context for language learning as well as active language use. While students are encouraged to view films/documentaries of their choice using fully-licensed materials for private viewing at home, teachers may find it useful at times to arrange for class viewing of these materials in schools for the purpose of group instruction and/or discussion. Under such circumstances, schools' attention is drawn to the following matters:

Copyright

The following information regarding the use of sound and video recordings has been extracted from pages 20 and 21 of the booklet "Copyright in Education in Hong Kong" issued by the Intellectual Property Department of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in 2000:

"Playing sound and video recordings of radio, TV and cable programmes

You *may* show or play a sound or view recording or a broadcast or cable programme (even if there is a licensing scheme in existence) without infringing copyright provided that all three of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the playing is in an educational establishment (an exhaustive list of 'educational establishments' is given in Schedule I of the copyright Ordinance.)
- the playing is to an audience consisting only of teachers, pupils and their parents or guardians
- the playing is for the purpose of instruction

You can see from this that you *cannot* play video or sound recordings of Radio, TV and Cable Programmes for purposes such as:

- school fairs to raise funds for parent-teacher associations or charities,
- functions to which the public can be admitted,
- entertainment purposes,

without getting a license from the broadcaster in advance

Note that you often need **two** categories of licenses: one in respect of the underlying musical, literary or dramatic work, and another in respect of the recording or performance of it.

Playing sound and video recordings (other than recordings of radio, TV and cable programmes)

You may play a sound or video recording (e.g. a video tape, audio tape or CD) or a broadcast or cable programme (even if there are licensing schemes available):

- the playing is in an educational establishment (an exhaustive list of 'the educational establishments' is given in Schedule I of the Copyright Ordinance.)
- the playing is to an audience consisting only of teachers, pupils and their parents or guardians
- the playing is for the purpose of instruction

without infringing copyright.

You should be aware that rented videos are normally rented for domestic viewing, not use in schools. To show rented videos in school (even where the criteria listed above are met) may be a breach of the conditions of hire of the video. If you plan to show hired videos, please check with the video rental outlet and get their agreement first."

For full details regarding copyright in education, please visit the website of the Intellectual Property Department at <http://www.info.gov.hk/ipd/>.

End-user Licensing Agreement

The sale of videos/VCDs/DVDs often entails an implicit end-user licensing agreement stipulating certain conditions of use to be observed by the purchaser. This may include, among others, an explicit statement at the beginning of the material that prohibits public display in places such as schools or community halls. The Education and Manpower Bureau is currently liaising with the relevant parties and authorities regarding the right to use these materials for educational purposes within schools and will inform schools of the final outcome. Meanwhile, schools are reminded that they should closely observe any end-user licensing agreements that may currently be in force at the point of sale.