

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.

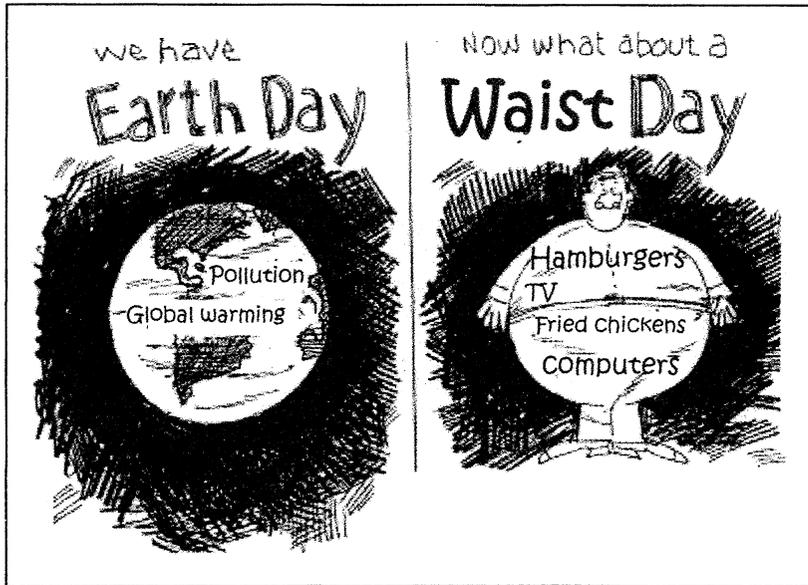
Not to be taken away before the
end of the examination session

Data-response Questions

Answer *all* the questions in this paper.

1. Consider the following sources:

Source A



Source B: Percentage of obese people in the adult population

Region	Country	Year (%)			GDP per capita in 2010 (US\$)
		2002	2005	2010	
Africa	Algeria	8.2	9.3	11.3	5 304
Africa	Malawi	1.1	1.4	1.6	351
Americas	Mexico	26.0	29.2	35.6	10 153
Americas	USA	34.9	39.2	46.3	48 386
Asia	China	1.3	1.8	3.9	5 413
Asia	Japan	1.5	1.7	1.7	45 920
Europe	France	6.7	7.2	8.3	44 008
Europe	United Kingdom	20.0	22.9	25.0	38 592

- (a) Identify and explain TWO causes of obesity suggested in Source A. (6 marks)
- (b) It has been claimed that obesity is becoming a global health problem. To what extent do Sources A and B support this view? Explain your answer. (8 marks)

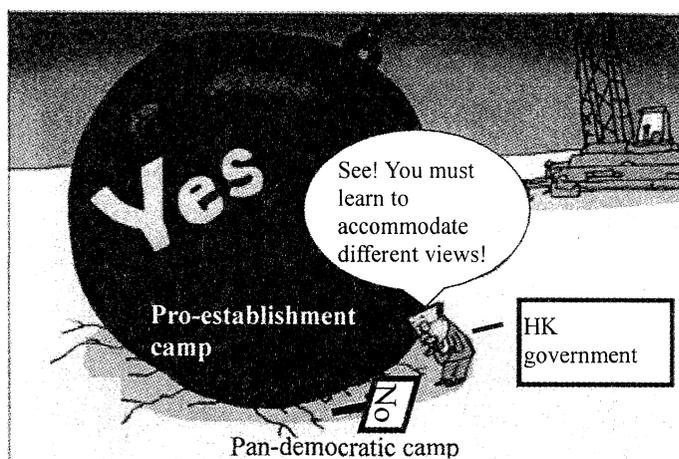
2. Consider the following sources:

Source A: Composition of the Hong Kong Legislative Council (2012)

Type of Seats	Number of Seats		
	Total	Pan-democratic camp	Pro-establishment camp and others
Geographical Constituency — Legislative Councillors are elected through direct election by about 3.5 million registered voters from Geographical Constituencies	35	18	17
Traditional Functional Constituency — Legislative Councillors are elected by about 240 000 eligible voters from the Traditional Functional Constituencies	30	6	24
New Functional Constituency (District Council II) — candidates are nominated from elected District Councillors and elected as Legislative Councillors by about 3.2 million registered voters who do not get a vote in the Traditional Functional Constituencies	5	3	2

Source B

The following cartoon shows the attitude of the Hong Kong government towards the pan-democratic camp in the Legislative Council



Source C: An extract from a newspaper report dated 2 June 2012

Legislative Councillors set a record in marathon bill-vetting last night as they voted down the last of the amendments to a controversial by-election bill and passed it into law following 109 hours of filibustering[#].

The bill was passed in its third reading, with 29 pro-establishment legislators voting in favour, after 11 days of filibustering and eight days of voting.

Legislators of the pan-democratic camp filed 1 306 amendments to force the bill's withdrawal. Their challenge led to 54 hours of debate in the second and third readings.

The pro-establishment camp then took more than 55 hours over eight days, including 13 hours of breaks and mealtimes, to vote down all the amendments.

An anonymous citizen complained about the filibustering hindering the legislation process for a number of bills. He claimed that the filibustering wasted several weeks of the precious time of Legislative Councillors and 12 million dollars of public funds.

[#]Filibustering refers to an action such as prolonged speaking which obstructs the law-making process.

Source D: An extract from a declaration of a group of people on a newspaper published on 13 June 2012

Allowance of adequate debate on legislation and checks and balances are the core principles of 'legislative power'

In a legislature, not only efficiency, but also adequate debate and checks and balances should be considered valuable. Legislators, as responsible representatives of citizens monitoring the administration, should discuss controversial bills in detail. Checks and balances is one of the core values of Hong Kong, ensuring respect for different opinions and protection of human rights in society.

- (a) With reference to Source A, interpret the message of the cartoon in Source B with regard to the government's attitude to opposing views. (4 marks)
- (b) Why do you think some Legislative Councillors adopt the filibustering strategy? Explain your answer with reference to the sources. (6 marks)
- (c) Does filibustering in the Legislative Council harm the interests of Hong Kong citizens? Justify your view with reference to the sources and your own knowledge. (8 marks)

3. Consider the following source:

Adapted from a newspaper report dated 21 October 2011

Mr. Wong and his wife have a 14-year-old daughter and a 9-year-old son. The parent-child relationship is close. In this happy family, the mother is responsible for earning money to support the family while the father is responsible for taking care of the housework and the family. The son and daughter have been brought up by the 'house husband' single-handedly.

Recalling the reason for this arrangement, Mr. Wong pointed out some of the considerations and painstaking thought that went into it. "I did not want my children to be brought up by foreign domestic helpers and become small overlords, or suffer from what is now called the 'princess disease'. Therefore, I decided to take care of them myself." Fourteen years ago, Mrs. Wong gave birth to her daughter. At that time, Mr. Wong's company had just closed down and there were more job opportunities for women. As a retail shop manager, his wife's working hours and income were more stable. Therefore, Mr. Wong decided to take up the role of 'house husband'.

Mr. Wong said that at first, he did not anticipate any real difficulty in taking care of his children. He discovered later that he had to face a little social pressure. He said, "When taking the kids to play, I encountered mostly mothers. As a man, it was difficult to talk to those mothers." Even one of the friends of the couple asked them to reconsider the decision and said, "Men should go out to work and earn money. Men will lose their value in life and their status if they do not have a job. Housework and child care are only suitable for women."

Mr. Wong said, "Hong Kong, being a cosmopolitan city, has a wide variety of life styles. I think that what can be done by women can also be done by men. In fact, 'house husbands' are more common than before in western societies."

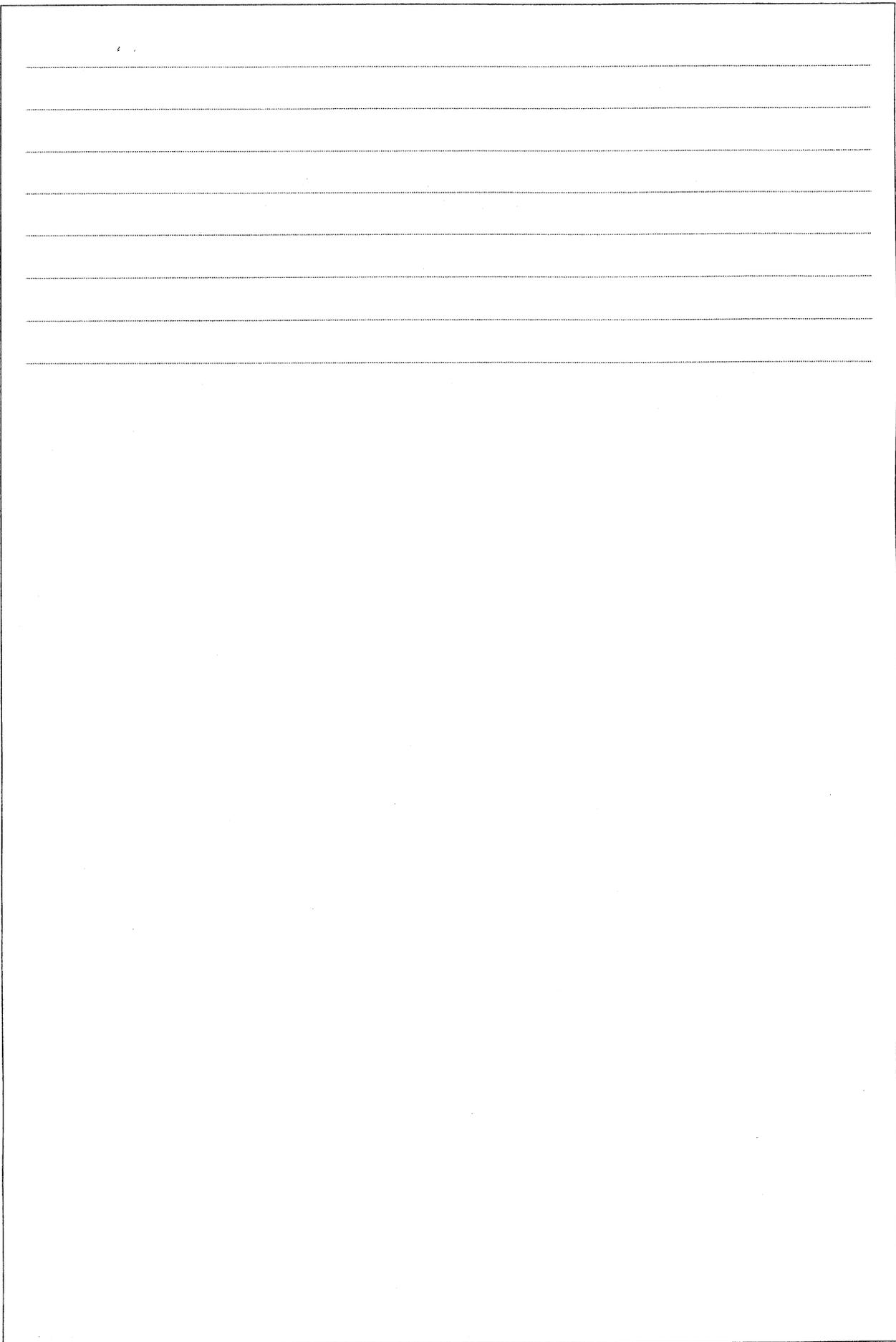
Regarding the price her husband has paid, Mrs. Wong said frankly, "Men generally put emphasis on career, but he has put that aside. The cost of this choice is beyond the imagination of ordinary people."

- (a) With reference to the source, identify and explain TWO social factors which could lead to changes in the division of labour by gender in Hong Kong families. (6 marks)
- (b) What values are reflected in the views on the roles of men and women given in the source? Identify and elaborate on these values. (8 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.

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END OF PAPER

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