

HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION 2019

LIBERAL STUDIES PAPER 2

11:15 am – 12:30 pm (1¼ 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.
- (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.

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

Extended response questions

Answer *one* question only.

1. Consider the following sources:

Source A: Adapted from a periodical article dated 21 August 2010 and information from the Hong Kong Legislative Council dated 14 July 2017

Rare diseases are a large group of diseases characterised by a small number of cases of the individual diseases that make up the group. They are serious chronic diseases and are often life-threatening. Most of them are genetic in origin, and scattered across populations. They pose challenges to the medical sector. Medical care for patients suffering from rare diseases may be hampered by delayed diagnosis, unavailability of treatments, and/or limited access to costly drugs and treatments. The present approach of controlling epidemic diseases has been successful, but the same approach might not work well for rare diseases.

Hannah was diagnosed with Gaucher's disease in 2009, a genetic condition that affects less than 1 in 100 000 live births and can be fatal. Hannah's mother said, 'It's so hard knowing that there is so little research out there for my daughter's condition.' There is still no cure on the horizon for this disease.

Source B

The renowned deceased scientist Stephen Hawking, who contributed tremendously to our understanding of the origin of the universe, suffered from a rare disease called amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).



- (a) Explain how society might help patients with rare diseases and their families to face the challenges they encounter. (8 marks)
- (b) Which factor should be given priority in deciding the future direction of medical research? Justify your view. (12 marks)

2. Consider the following source:

Adapted from news reports dated 14 January 2017 and 29 May 2018

Among the historic buildings in Hong Kong, the former police stations in Tai Po and Central are the more fortunate ones. The revitalisation of the old Tai Po Police Station – built by the British in 1899 as the first permanent police station in the New Territories – was recognised in 2016 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Asia-Pacific. Besides, a compound of 300 000 sq ft in Central, built between 1864 and 1925, comprising 16 historic buildings grouped under the former Central Police Station, the Central Magistracy and Victoria Prison, has been revitalised into a centre for heritage and arts. However, many other historic sites are left in ruins or may face demolition.

The government says its conservation work takes a multi-pronged approach, emphasising community and collaboration. However, according to a university professor, the government does not prioritise conservation, and historic sites have been left to the mercy of property developers who are eager to launch large-scale, expensive developments. A community activist also commented that Hong Kong still lags behind places such as Singapore and Guangzhou in terms of conservation. He believes that the government should widen its definition of heritage to the protection of historic and culturally significant sites, including neighbourhoods such as Sham Shui Po. Besides, a social policy analyst said that the government has neglected the human part of community and suggested the conservation of local culture, such as Hong Kong-style cafes (Cha Chaan Teng) in the redevelopment of To Kwa Wan.

- (a) Explain the controversies that might arise from the conservation of historic buildings in Hong Kong. (8 marks)
- (b) 'Cultural conservation should take priority in urban development projects in Hong Kong.' Do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. (12 marks)

3. Consider the following source:

An extract from a periodical article published in April 2016

Behind the Scenes of K-pop 'Fandom'*

The concert starts at 7 pm, but fans started arriving hours earlier. Most of them came early for the merchandise and souvenirs distributed by the fan clubs. A member of the band's fan group said, 'We arrived at two, mainly to set up photo booths and distribute souvenirs.'

Korean fan bases always refer to themselves by an official name given by their idols. This intimate subculture of Korean 'fandom' gives Hong Kong fans a degree of affinity with their idols they are unlikely to experience with home-grown artists.

For K-pop fans, showing admiration for their idols is very important. All the decorations along the hallway in the concert venue, from large backdrops to small souvenirs, were designed and hand-made by fans. LED finger lights, paper banners and signs were handed out to ticketholders, and each prop came with specific guidelines on how and when they should be displayed. Lyrics sheets for fan chants were also distributed. Volunteers reminded concert-goers to practise them before the show.

* 'Fandom' refers to a phenomenon in which a network of fans (of a sports team, a band, a TV programme, a music group, etc.) participate actively in related activities.

- (a) Explain how a globalized world might facilitate the spread of K-pop culture. (8 marks)
- (b) "'Fandom' participation hinders rather than enhances the personal development of young people in Hong Kong.' Do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. (12 marks)

END OF PAPER

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *HKDSE Question Papers* booklet published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.