



MANDARIN CHINESE

1341/02

Paper 2 Chinese Culture

May/June 2009

1 hour 15 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

You may not take set texts into the examination.

Choose **one** question and answer **either** Question (a) **or** Question (b). You may choose your question from **either** Section 1 **or** Section 2.

Write your answer in English.

You should write between 600 and 750 words.

A maximum of 30 marks are available, of which 25 are for content and 5 are for structure.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.



This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



Choose **ONE** question (**EITHER** Question (a) **OR** Question (b)) from **EITHER** Section 1 **OR** Section 2 and answer in English.

Recommended word length: 600–750 words.

Your answer will be marked out of 30 with 25 marks for content and 5 marks for structure.

SECTION 1: TOPICS IN CHINESE CULTURE

1 The Founding of the People's Republic of China

EITHER:

(a) How did the Chinese communist leadership transform itself from a guerrilla group into a party of government?

OR:

(b) Why did the Chinese Communist Party develop a five-year plan and how was it implemented in 1953?

2 Chinese Economic Trends since 1978

EITHER:

(a) What specific measures did the Chinese Communist Party implement to encourage economic opening (kaifang) in the decade following 1978?

OR:

(b) Why did China want to join the World Trade Organisation and what were the benefits to China following accession in December 2001?

3 The City of Beijing

EITHER:

(a) 'The economic opening of the People's Republic of China has transformed Beijing over the last 30 years'. Discuss what you consider to be the most important aspects of this urban transformation.

OR:

(b) Why did the Ming Emperor, Yongle, relocate the capital of China to Beijing in the early C15?

SECTION 2: CHINESE LITERATURE AND FILM

4 *The Picador Book of Contemporary Chinese Fiction*

EITHER:

- (a) 'Many of the stories in this collection reflect the struggle of ordinary people to find meaning in the mundane experiences of everyday life.' Discuss this statement illustrating your answer with close reference to **two or three** of the stories.

OR:

- (b) In *The Window*, by Mo Shen, how do Young Han's experiences influence her personal development and to what extent does this development reflect changes in society in 1970s China?

5 *Red Dust, Ma Jian*

EITHER:

- (a) 'The narrator's romantic view of women contrasts with the reality of his one-dimensional treatment of them'. Discuss with close reference to the text.

OR:

- (b) With close reference to the text explore the extent to which specialist knowledge of China is helpful for an appreciation of *Red Dust*.

6 *Yellow Earth, Chen Kaige*

EITHER:

- (a) In your opinion is *Yellow Earth* an uplifting film or a tragedy? Support your answer with close reference to the film.

OR:

- (b) *Yellow Earth* is seen as a ground-breaking film in Chinese cinematic history. Through an analysis of its content and cinematography explain why it enjoys this reputation.

BLANK PAGE

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

University of Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.