

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

**LIBERAL STUDIES (PRACTICE QUESTION)**

**Suggested Marking Guidelines**

**Paper 2**

With regard to the nature of the curriculum and assessment design of the subject, the draft marking guidelines will only list a set of suggested marking criteria for each question for reference. Before the commencement of the marking exercise, markers are required to study the draft marking guidelines, trial mark a number of representative sample scripts, and discuss how to achieve the professional consensus in the standardisation meeting.

4. (a)

Suggested marking guidelines	Marks
<p>The candidate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• states his/her stance clearly</li> <li>• explains his/her stance in the light of the source and according to his/her knowledge:</li> </ul> <p><i>Agrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ explains clearly and thoroughly how the serious wealth gap in Hong Kong is caused by the inadequate government's support to the poor (e.g. taxation, housing, social welfare policies, etc.)</li> </ul> <p><i>Disagrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ explains clearly and thoroughly the policies of the government such as policies helping the poor; government's fiscal expenditure on education, medical care and housing.; or explains clearly and thoroughly other factors, such as the development of a knowledge-based economy</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provides a well structured, in-depth discussion which is clearly presented</li> </ul>	<p>9 – 10</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• states briefly his/her stance</li> <li>• explains briefly with reasonable arguments in the light of the source and according to his/her knowledge:</li> </ul> <p><i>Agrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ explains briefly how the serious wealth gap in Hong Kong is caused by the inadequate government's support to the poor</li> </ul> <p><i>Disagrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ explains briefly how government policies help reduce the wealth gap; or elaborates approximately other factors</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provides a reasonably in-depth, well structured discussion which is fairly clearly presented</li> </ul>	<p>7 – 8</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exhibits an ambiguous stance</li> <li>• attempts to explain in the light of the source and according to his/her knowledge:</li> </ul> <p><i>Agrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ attempts to explain how the serious wealth gap in Hong Kong is caused by the inadequate government's support to the poor, but with no justification</li> </ul> <p><i>Disagrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ attempts to explain why the policy of the government helps reduce the wealth gap, but with no justification; or attempts to explain other factors, but without justification</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provides a moderately in-depth discussion which is not very well structured but is presented in a moderately clear way</li> </ul>	<p>4 – 6</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• exhibits no clear stance and may put forward contradictory arguments</li> <li>• attempts to explain according to his/her knowledge or the source, but the explanation is too partial</li> <li>• provides a rather shallow discussion which is poorly organized with vaguely expressed ideas</li> </ul>	<p>1 – 3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provides an irrelevant answer</li> </ul>	<p>0</p>

(b)

Suggested marking guidelines	Marks
The candidate:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clearly explains to what extent the serious wealth gap has adversely affected the social harmony of Hong Kong</li> <li>explains her position; shows an in-depth understanding and a balanced and appropriate application of the relevant knowledge and concepts:               <p><i>Agrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>explains clearly and in detail the relationship between wealth gap and social harmony, for example, inequality in the distribution of wealth, confrontation among different classes, the lack of social mobility leading to antagonism towards the government or other classes etc.</li> </ul> <p><i>Disagrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>explains clearly and in detail other factors leading to the loss of social harmony, such as political disputes etc.; explains clearly and in detail how social welfare, universal education facilitate social mobility and social harmony</li> </ul> </li> <li>provides a well structured, in-depth discussion which is clearly presented</li> </ul>	9-10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>explains more or less to what extent the serious wealth gap has adversely affected the social harmony of Hong Kong</li> <li>explains more or less his/ her position; shows an understanding of the relevant knowledge and concepts and an ability to apply them where appropriate:               <p><i>Agrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>explains more or less the relationship between wealth gap and social harmony</li> </ul> <p><i>Disagrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>explains more or less other factors leading to the loss of social harmony, and explains more or less why they think that there is social harmony in Hong Kong</li> </ul> </li> <li>provides a reasonably in-depth, well structured discussion which is reasonably clearly presented</li> </ul>	7-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>states approximately his/ her stance</li> <li>attempts to explain his/ her position; shows a partial understanding or is only able to apply relevant knowledge or concepts in a basic way; or provides a one-sided argument:               <p><i>Agrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>points out the relationship between the relationship between wealth gap and social harmony, but without justification</li> </ul> <p><i>Disagrees:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>points out other factors leading to the loss of social harmony, but with no justification; or attempts to explain why they think that there is social harmony in Hong Kong, but without justification</li> </ul> </li> <li>provides a somewhat shallow discussion which is not very well structured, is average in articulating his/her ideas.</li> </ul>	4-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>exhibits no clear stance and may put forward contradictory arguments</li> <li>attempts to explain according to his/ her knowledge, but the explanation is too partial, e.g. pointing out the meaning of wealth gap, social harmony, without developing the relationship between them</li> <li>gives a rather shallow discussion with little organization; expresses his/ her ideas vaguely</li> </ul>	1-3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>gives an answer which is not relevant to the question</li> </ul>	0