

Please stick the barcode label

Candidate Number

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

**LIBERAL STUDIES PAPER 2**  
**Question-Answer Book**  
**(SAMPLE PAPER)**

This paper must be answered in English  
11.15 am – 12.30 pm (1¼ hours)

1. This paper consists of three questions. **Answer ONE question only.**
2. Write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label in the spaces provided on the cover.
3. Stick barcode labels in the spaces provided on pages 5, 7 and 9.
4. Write your answers in the spaces provided in this Question-Answer Book. **Do not write in the margins.**
5. Supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your candidate number and stick a barcode label on each sheet, and fasten it with a string **INSIDE** this book.
6. 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. Study the following information adapted from a report in a local newspaper dated 12 March 2007:

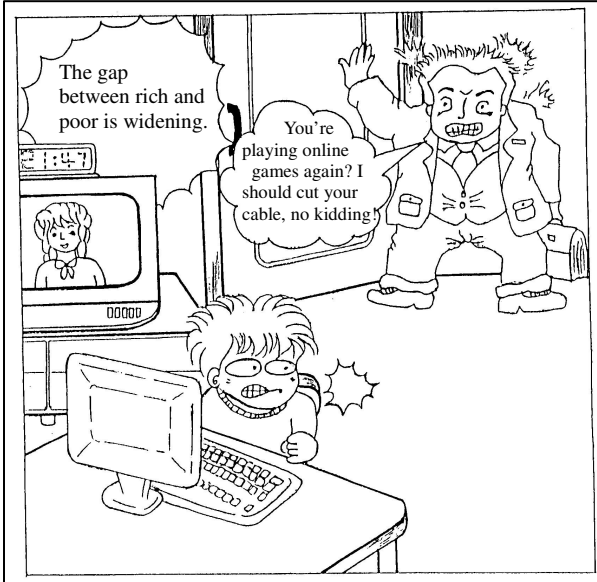
**What is the Way Forward for China's Energy Development?**

During the meetings of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Premier Wen Jiabao emphasised the importance of conserving the environment in the course of economic development. He called for the use of pollution-free or low-pollution energy sources when possible. For example, the reliance on coal as the major energy source will result in many pollution and mine safety problems, therefore it should be replaced with renewable energy sources aimed at reducing pollution.

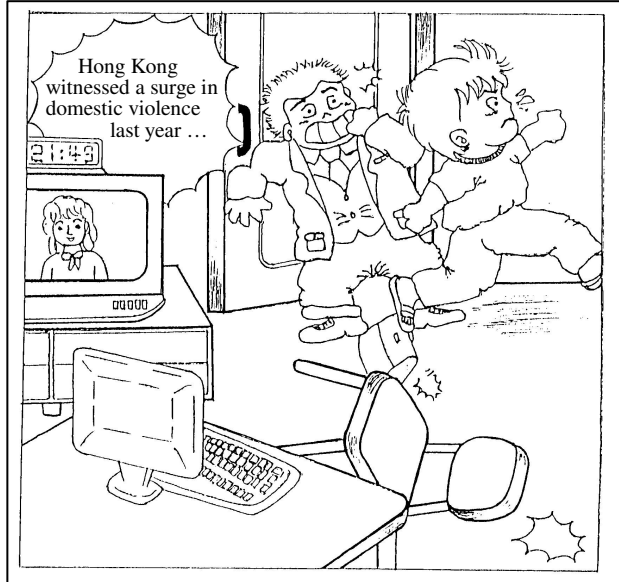
- (a) Referring to the above information, why did Premier Wen Jiabao propose 'low-pollution, high-safety' as the way in which energy should be developed? Explain. (8 marks)
- (b) Referring to the above information, how feasible is the viewpoint of Premier Wen Jiabao on the direction of energy development in China? Explain. (12 marks)

2. Consider the following two cartoons:

**Cartoon 1**



**Cartoon 2**



- (a) In the light of the above cartoons, what positive methods can adolescents use to deal with conflicts with parents on the issue of playing online games? Explain. (8 marks)
- (b) 'Low socio-economic status is the main cause of domestic violence in Hong Kong.' Do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer in the light of the above cartoons and according to your knowledge. (12 marks)

3. Consider the following information adapted from an article in a local newspaper dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2006:

As Christmas draws near, many young people on the Mainland are joyfully embracing the atmosphere of this Western festival. Christmas has gradually become a prime time for consumption.

However, ten academics from leading universities, including Peking University and Tsinghua University, have recently posted a plea entitled 'Our views on the question of "Christmas" – to shun collective cultural unconsciousness and preserve the integrity of Chinese culture'. They demanded that 'Chinese people stand against cultural expansionism from the West' and asked people not to follow the trend of celebrating Christmas.

In recent years, Western festivals such as Christmas, Halloween and Valentine's Day have become fashionable following the promotion by businessmen. These Western festivals have been far more popular among youngsters than the traditional Chinese ones, such as the Dragon Boat Festival and the Chung Yeung Festival, etc.

Here are some of the viewpoints on Christmas expressed by the ten academics:

- the celebration of Christmas implants a foreign culture into the hearts of children who do not have any powers of discrimination
- businessmen should try to explore commercial opportunities offered by traditional Chinese festivals, such as celebrating the birthday of Confucius
- Chinese people should stop 'adoring Western things', and return to Chinese cultural traditions

- (a) Referring to the above information, in your opinion, what is the relationship between the popularity of Western festivals among youngsters on the Mainland and China's economic reforms? Explain. (10 marks)
- (b) 'The main reason why Western festivals are becoming popular on the Mainland is the result of attaching little importance to traditional Chinese festivals.' Do you agree with this statement? Explain. (10 marks)













