



MANDARIN CHINESE (SHORT COURSE)

1341/02

Paper 4 Chinese Culture

May/June 2015

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, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

You may **not** take texts or films 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.

All questions carry equal marks.

The syllabus is approved for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

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) What did the Chinese Communist Party and the Nationalist government each hope to gain by their temporary alliance during the Second United Front (1937–1945), and to what extent did they both achieve their aims?

OR:

- (b) In the early 1950s, Mao said, 'Our present policy is to control not eliminate capitalism'. To what extent was Mao's policy put into practice during the period 1949–1956?

2 Chinese Economic Trends since 1978

EITHER:

- (a) 'Deng Xiaoping's 'reform and opening up' policy initiated the greatest poverty-reducing programme in China's history.' Evaluate this statement with reference to Deng Xiaoping's reforms in the decade after 1978, giving specific examples to support your response.

OR:

- (b) 'Representing 21% of the world's population, China has only 9% of the planet's available cultivable land.' Evaluate the progress China has made in developing its agricultural sector since 1978 in order to be able to feed its population.

3 Emerging China: Population, Environment and Migration

EITHER:

- (a) Discuss the pressures on the quantity and quality of water in China and the extent to which the government (at national or local level) has been successful in developing policies to deal with these pressures.

OR:

- (b) 'A high level of urbanisation is generally recognised as an indicator of the modernisation of a country.' Give specific examples to illustrate China's rapid urbanisation and discuss the extent to which this statement is true with respect to the whole of China.

SECTION 2: CHINESE LITERATURE AND FILM

4 *Love in a Fallen City and Other Stories*, Eileen Chang

EITHER:

- (a) Discuss how Eileen Chang portrays a society in transition in *Aloeswood Incense* and **one** other story.

OR:

- (b) 'Eileen Chang's depictions of domestic relations are a key theme of her fiction.' How far would you agree with this statement? Discuss with reference to **two or three** stories.

5 *The Boat to Redemption*, Su Tong

EITHER:

- (a) '*The Boat to Redemption* is a parable about the journeys we take in our lives, the distance between the boat of our desires and the dry land of our achievement.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Illustrate your answer with close reference to the text.

OR:

- (b) Discuss the relationship between father and son in *The Boat to Redemption*. To what extent is the narrator (Dongliang) defined by this relationship?

6 *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*, Dai Sijie

EITHER:

- (a) How far would you agree that the film *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress* is a realistic portrayal of China in the Cultural Revolution period?

OR:

- (b) In the film *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*, discuss the character of the Little Chinese Seamstress and analyse the role she plays.

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