

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared on a website:



Digital museums

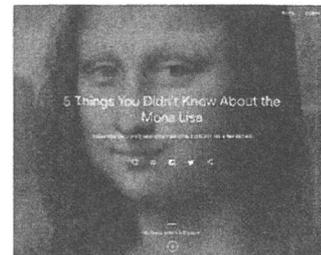
Can't afford a trip to Paris to see the *Mona Lisa* at the Louvre? Good news! Technology is helping to make art available to everyone. By putting their collections online, museums are bypassing geographic barriers and preserving art and culture.

One institute already doing this is Google Arts & Culture. They work with more than 1000 museums around the world to digitise and display their art collections for all to enjoy.

Their open access online platform includes more than 6 million digitalised photos and videos of artworks, cultural artifacts and historical documents.

With just a few mouse clicks, viewers can experience art in new ways. They can tour partner museum collections and galleries to explore the artworks in detail with Google's high-resolution image technology. The platform includes advanced search capabilities and educational tools.

So, why not enjoy interactive games such as searching for hidden details in artwork or solving artistic puzzles with family or friends? Better yet, download Google's AR (augmented reality) app: you can play with the art filter and turn yourself into the *Mona Lisa*!



Your group is doing a project on digital museums. You are meeting to discuss the topic. You may want to talk about:

- why some museums want to put their art collections online
- how viewing art online is different from viewing it in person
- how local museums can compete with digital museums to attract visitors
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you enjoy going to museums?
2. Should there be more art lessons in schools?
3. Who visits museums more: young people or the elderly?
4. Do you think digital museums will become more popular?
5. Should students be encouraged to visit art museums?
6. Do you prefer looking at art or making your own art?
7. Should all museums be free to the public?
8. What can people learn by viewing art?

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PART B Individual Response

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PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in an international newspaper:

Food delivery workers

Getting food home delivered has always been one of modern life's greatest luxuries, but over the last couple of years it's gotten even better. The arrival of food delivery services like Deliveroo and Foodpanda has reshaped the whole concept of eating in. Now we can get our favourite meals delivered straight to us. It's so convenient and sounds almost too good to be true – which, it turns out, it actually is.

A published report found that many food delivery workers are paid below minimum wage and lack basic protections such as paid leave, sick pay and other benefits that regular employees enjoy. They are not paid extra for petrol or to maintain their vehicles and job security is poor as the work is irregular and so are the tips.

The food companies argue that the delivery workers aren't their employees and that most of them are casual workers. However, two-thirds of delivery workers polled said they worked a minimum of six days per week, and it was always on weekends and holidays.

The situation opens up an ethical dilemma. Millions of us regularly order home-delivered food because it's pretty affordable. But now it's clear why it's affordable – many of the workers are being exploited.

In New York City, a bill was proposed to improve the working conditions for delivery workers including a minimum per-trip payment and a measure requiring restaurants to provide bathroom access to food delivery workers.

Your group is doing a project on home food delivery. You are meeting to discuss the topic. You may want to talk about:

- the popularity of food delivery apps
- the changes of working as a food delivery worker
- how to improve the working conditions of food delivery workers
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you prefer food delivery or home-cooked food?
2. Do you like to order food online?
3. Would you like to work as a food delivery worker?
4. Would you be interested in working in the food industry?
5. Do food delivery apps encourage unhealthy eating habits?
6. How can food delivery be more environmentally-friendly?
7. Do you think home food delivery will continue to be popular?
8. Do you think technology will replace food delivery workers in the future?

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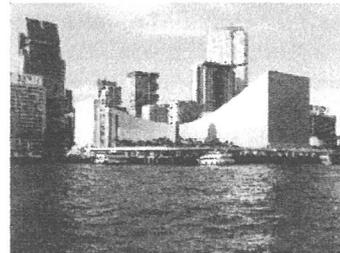
PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in a local newspaper:

'Ugly' buildings

Every city has 'ugly' buildings – buildings that most citizens consider unattractive or even horrible. 'Ugly' buildings might have strange shapes, be made from unattractive materials, or simply not fit in with the other buildings around them.

In Hong Kong, the Cultural Centre in Tsim Sha Tsui was voted one of the city's ugliest buildings. Critics have said it is 'toilet-coloured', and point out that it has no windows and blocks the view of Victoria Harbour. One critic even said it should be knocked down and rebuilt.



Whether such 'ugly' buildings should be knocked down is a common subject of debate in cities. Here are two opinions on the subject in an online forum:

Yes, Ugly Buildings Should Be Knocked Down

Yes! A single ugly building can ruin a neighbourhood. We don't need to preserve everything; things change and we should move on and improve our lives, not continue the suffering of those who have to look at these architectural disasters!

No, Ugly Buildings Should Stay

Many buildings need time for people to learn to like them. People thought the Eiffel Tower was ugly when it was first built; now it's considered one of the most beautiful structures on earth. If we destroy old buildings because we think they're ugly, our city will lose its character.

Your group is working on a project about 'ugly' buildings. You are meeting to discuss the issue. You may want to talk about:

- whether it is important for buildings to look attractive
- reasons for keeping buildings that many people consider ugly
- how to decide whether a building should stay or be replaced
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you like old buildings?
2. Do you have a favourite building in Hong Kong?
3. Which district in Hong Kong has the most beautiful buildings?
4. Should Hong Kong build even taller buildings?
5. Should a building be approved by the public before it is built?
6. Why do some people consider old buildings more beautiful than new buildings?
7. Do you think Hong Kong looks different to other big cities?
8. In your opinion, what makes a building beautiful?

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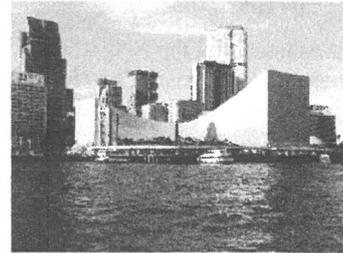
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This article appeared in an online newspaper:

Tourism Management

Tourism is growing fast globally. To manage the impact of tourism on the environment, culture and local way of life, popular travel destinations have developed their own strategies:

A tax on tourists

Venice, the beautiful city in Italy, was built on water and has been dealing with problems caused by tourists for a long time. In 2019, Venice started to impose a tax of €10 on each visitor to pay for the maintenance of the city and the repair works made necessary by the large number of tourists.

Locals first

In Amsterdam, the Netherlands, the government wants to prioritise the needs of the 1 million locals before those of the tourists. Developments of new hotels and tourist attractions have all been stopped. Tourists are also constantly reminded of the importance of respecting the locals through city-wide campaigns, advertisements and signs.

Timed entry tickets

Since July 2017, tourists have been required to book a time to visit the ruins of the ancient city of Machu Picchu, Peru. Booking of tickets sometimes has to be made months in advance. Entry tickets are either valid from 6:00am to 12:00pm or from 12:00pm to 5:30pm.

A total ban

Since October 2019, all travellers have officially been banned from climbing Uluru, a natural wonder considered sacred by native Australians. Previously, many climbers were told to leave for disrespecting the environmental and spiritual significance of the site.

Your group is doing a project on the impact of tourism in different parts of the world. You may want to talk about:

- benefits tourism can bring to a city
- problems tourism can bring to a city
- whether Hong Kong should follow any of the above management strategies
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What do tourists like to do in Hong Kong?
2. What can people learn from visiting another country?
3. What makes Hong Kong a good place to visit?
4. Would you like to work in the tourism industry?
5. Is it better to plan your own trip or join a tour?
6. Do you prefer to travel alone or with friends and family?
7. Why do so many people travel these days?
8. How can you be a responsible tourist?

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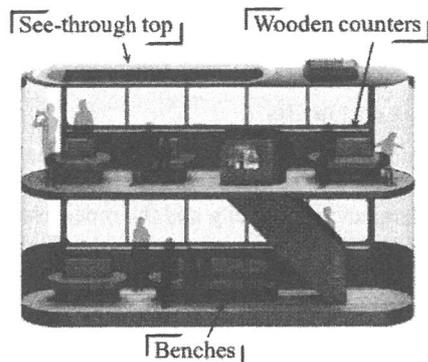
Driverless tram concept for Hong Kong

A design studio has revealed a concept design of an electric double-decker driverless tram to hit the roads of Hong Kong. The giant vehicle, named “Island”, won the 2020 GIDA Design Award. The goal of this new concept is to have people use public transport instead of private transport.

In terms of safety, LED lights act as brake lights and headlights to make sure the tram can be seen in all weather conditions. There is no one driving the vehicle, so sensors which can detect surrounding traffic and pedestrians make sure the tram is aware of its surroundings.

The vehicle has a see-through top which lets the sunlight in during the day and lets passengers enjoy the city view at night. There are also bar-like wooden counters on each level, and circular benches inside where passengers sit facing outwards. There are handrails for passengers to hold and enjoy the passing views. The front and back of the tram feature rounded glass windows. This allows for natural light to fill the inside of the tram during the day.

The designer said, “Island represents the forward-thinking spirit of Hong Kong. It tries to introduce a new concept for public transport. Trams are one of the city’s icons and this design celebrates their 115th anniversary.”



You are members of your school’s technology club. Your group has been asked to discuss the driverless tram concept. You may want to talk about:

- whether driverless trams are a good idea for Hong Kong
- whether the public would like this design
- other features which could be added to the tram
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you often take the tram?
2. Would you ride on a driverless tram?
3. Is public transport in Hong Kong too crowded?
4. Are trams a good mode of transport?
5. Are trams getting less popular in Hong Kong?
6. Should more people use public transport?
7. Will driverless vehicles become more common in Hong Kong?
8. How can the tram company make more money?

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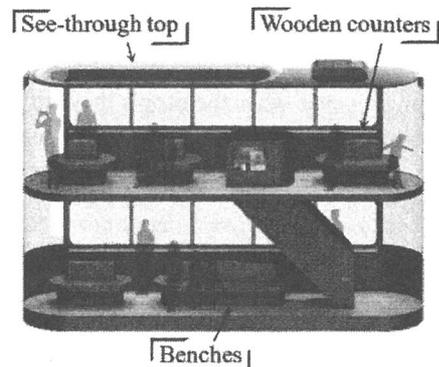
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Comfort food

For many people, the idea of ‘comfort food’ means food on the heavy side: big on carbs, fatty or rich, like a bucket of deep-fried chicken or a warm bowl of instant noodles. The notion of ‘guilty pleasures’ is never far away. However, comfort food can also be food that brings us back to our childhood, like mother’s chicken soup or home-made congee.

Studies suggest that when we associate foods with the security of childhood, it gives us warm and happy feelings. This also explains why, when we feel stressed, we often turn to comfort food to make ourselves feel better, even if the feeling is only temporary.

What counts as comfort food is different from person to person. In one study of American preferences, males preferred warm, hearty, meal-related comfort foods such as steak and potatoes because these foods reminded them of being ‘cared for’ or spoiled. In contrast, females preferred comfort foods that are snack-related such as chocolate and ice cream because these foods were associated with low amounts of work and less ‘clean up’.

In a recent survey conducted in Hong Kong during the pandemic, the top three favourite snacks of locals were potato chips, biscuits and ice cream.

Humans have a fundamental need to belong and comfort food is a way for people to obtain a sense of belonging even when the people they are close to are not close by.

Your group is doing a project on comfort food. You are meeting to discuss this topic. You may want to talk about:

- reasons why people eat comfort food
- whether comfort food can be part of a healthy diet
- other ways to reduce stress and improve mental health
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What is your favourite comfort food?
2. When do you eat comfort food?
3. Should snacks be banned from school?
4. Do young and old people like the same kind of comfort food?
5. Did your eating habits change during the pandemic?
6. Should companies provide comfort food for their employees?
7. Should comfort food come with health warnings?
8. Do you think you could live without comfort food?

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This article appeared in a local blog:

Multi-functional cafés in Hong Kong

The newest trend in Hong Kong is multi-functional cafés, where customers can combine coffee drinking with other activities. Read on to learn more about four multi-functional cafés in Hong Kong.

Café-coding academy: Cafés and education is a popular mix, and *Preface Coffee* offers a quiet place to work, providing ample seating, power sockets, and fast Wi-Fi. Better yet, they have courses in website development and computer programming.

Café-massage parlour: *Yau Café* is a new social enterprise café and massage parlour operated by the Hong Kong Blind Union. Besides employing visually-impaired workers and massage therapists, its cakes and biscuits are made by visually-impaired bakers. Enjoy a coffee and book a head, shoulder, or neck massage with one of their therapists.

Café-hair salon: At *Duet*, a café and a hair salon blend together in perfect harmony. The café side serves the finest espresso plus a menu of savoury fusion dishes and creative sweets. Over on the salon side, a hairstylist works his magic cutting, dyeing, and treating customers' hairdos.

Café-laundromat: Wash your clothes and enjoy a cup of coffee at the same time at *Clean*, a new sustainable laundromat and coffee shop. *Clean* offers delicious coffee options along with self-service washing machines, while being eco-friendly and resource-efficient.

You are members of your school's Business Club. You are doing a project on multi-functional cafés. You are meeting to discuss this. You may want to talk about:

- why multi-functional cafés are popular
- which multi-functional café will attract the most customers
- what advice you have for people who want to open a multi-functional café
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you like going to cafés?
2. Is a café a good place to do homework?
3. Would you like to work at a café?
4. Do you like going to chain coffee shops, like Starbucks?
5. Why are coffee shops so popular in Hong Kong?
6. Do you think multi-functional cafés are a good idea?
7. Do you think multi-functional cafés will take over traditional coffee shops?
8. What other businesses could benefit from mixed use of space?

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Podcasting		
<p>Podcasting has become an effective and popular way to share exciting stories, meaningful conversations and valuable information. Due to their growing popularity, podcasts have become a part of our daily lives. But what is podcasting and why is it so popular?</p> <p>A podcast is an audio program that is available for streaming or downloading on the Internet. It is a series of episodes, often focusing on a specific topic, that listeners can subscribe to and enjoy whenever they want. Unlike other media, podcasts offer a more personal and intimate experience, allowing listeners to choose what they want to hear and when they want to hear it.</p> <p>Listening to a podcast often feels like a conversation with a friend. Hosts and guests share personal stories, experiences and insights, creating a real connection with the audience. The world of podcasting is also diverse, with thousands of podcasts covering a wide range of genres and topics. The listener can discover new voices, perspectives and stories that would otherwise remain hidden.</p> <p>Here are three types of podcast which are very popular:</p>		
News 	Storytelling 	Conversation 
<p>News podcasts aim to bring the latest and biggest news stories to their listeners every day. They tend to be short, five to ten-minutes in length.</p>	<p>Storytelling podcasts often have a theme, such as crime or ghost stories. They have proven to be quite popular! Such stories are often told within 20 minutes.</p>	<p>In conversational podcasts, a host invites people, sometimes famous, onto the show to have a casual chat. Podcasts of this nature are often more than an hour long.</p>

The Tourism Board has invited students to promote Hong Kong to international visitors through podcasts. Your group is meeting to plan a series of podcasts. You may want to talk about:

- which type of podcast can best promote Hong Kong
- what to include in the podcasts
- how to keep listeners interested in the series
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you listen to podcasts?
2. When do you listen to a podcast?
3. What do you like to listen to on a podcast?
4. Do you think making a podcast would be fun?
5. If you created a podcast, what would you talk about?
6. Are podcasts a good way to learn about a place?
7. Why do some people prefer videos over podcasts?
8. What skills should a podcast host have?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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PART A Group Interaction

You will be given 10 minutes to prepare. The time allowed for the group interaction is 8 minutes (or 6 minutes for a group of 3 candidates). You may make notes on the notecard provided and refer to your notes during the discussion.

This article appeared on a website:

Podcasting		
<p>Podcasting has become an effective and popular way to share exciting stories, meaningful conversations and valuable information. Due to their growing popularity, podcasts have become a part of our daily lives. But what is podcasting and why is it so popular?</p> <p>A podcast is an audio program that is available for streaming or downloading on the Internet. It is a series of episodes, often focusing on a specific topic, that listeners can subscribe to and enjoy whenever they want. Unlike other media, podcasts offer a more personal and intimate experience, allowing listeners to choose what they want to hear and when they want to hear it.</p> <p>Listening to a podcast often feels like a conversation with a friend. Hosts and guests share personal stories, experiences and insights, creating a real connection with the audience. The world of podcasting is also diverse, with thousands of podcasts covering a wide range of genres and topics. The listener can discover new voices, perspectives and stories that would otherwise remain hidden.</p> <p>Here are three types of podcast which are very popular:</p>		
News 	Storytelling 	Conversation 
<p>News podcasts aim to bring the latest and biggest news stories to their listeners every day. They tend to be short, five to ten-minutes in length.</p>	<p>Storytelling podcasts often have a theme, such as crime or ghost stories. They have proven to be quite popular! Such stories are often told within 20 minutes.</p>	<p>In conversational podcasts, a host invites people, sometimes famous, onto the show to have a casual chat. Podcasts of this nature are often more than an hour long.</p>

The Tourism Board has invited students to promote Hong Kong to international visitors through podcasts. Your group is meeting to plan a series of podcasts. You may want to talk about:

- which type of podcast can best promote Hong Kong
- what to include in the podcasts
- how to keep listeners interested in the series
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

DO NOT TAKE AWAY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in a magazine:

Feeding Communities	
Although there are plenty of shops, restaurants and bakeries everywhere you go, not everyone can afford to buy the food they need. To help communities in need, two initiatives have been set up in Hong Kong.	
Blue Fridge Project	Food Angel Project
<p>On Woosung Street in Jordan, a small blue fridge stands outside with a sign that reads: "Give what you can give, take what you need to take."</p>  <p>Inside the fridge: instant noodles, biscuits, tins of food, and even socks and towels for anyone who may need them.</p> <p>Mr. Khan, the creator of the community fridge, says that "a fridge is part of your home, so even if it's on a street, it's part of a community. People can just open it and leave something or take what they need."</p>	 <p>Food Angel is a food assistance programme launched in 2011 with the mission of "Waste Not, Hunger Not, With Love".</p> <p>The programme collects leftover food from different sectors of the food industry that would otherwise be disposed of as waste. Following strict safety protocols, the food items are turned into nutritious meals and food packs in their central kitchens.</p> <p>The food is then distributed to serve communities in need in Hong Kong.</p>

You are members of the Social Service Club. You are meeting to discuss how to help communities in need. You may want to talk about:

- why it is important for young people to help communities in need
- which of the two projects above would be best to organise in your school
- what else your school can do to help communities in need
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Have you done any community service?
2. What kinds of food are good to donate?
3. Is a lot of food wasted in Hong Kong?
4. Why do businesses want to donate their leftover food?
5. Do you think the Blue Fridge project would work where you live?
6. Would you leave food in the Blue Fridge?
7. Should more be done to raise awareness for communities in need?
8. What should you consider before volunteering?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared on a website:

Vocational training in Germany

Did you know most German students don't want to go to university? Instead, vocational education and training (VET) is a very common pathway to gain skills and embark on a successful career. VET combines job-training and study, so students can both study and work at the same time. VET offers certifications for people who are interested in becoming an electrician, tax specialist, nurse, ambulance worker, dental technician, hairdresser, film and video editor, and product designer.

Depending on the job, trainees may work for three to four days a week in the company, factory, or shop to learn practical skills through on-the-job training. Trainees earn a modest salary which helps with student expenses.

On the other days, students go to school to learn both job-specific and general education subjects, such as English, maths, and physical education. The program usually lasts between two and four years. At the end of the training, students take an examination and are then given their certifications. They can continue to work in the place they were trained, study to obtain further qualifications or even become self-employed.

The VET program supplies Germany's companies with well-trained employees. It also helps trainees transition into work life. VET opens up a variety of promising career options for young people. Both young people and adults wanting to change careers can take part.

Your group is doing a project on job training for graduates of secondary school. You are meeting to discuss the topic. You may want to talk about:

- what vocational training offers that university does not
- how vocational training can benefit society
- what would attract more students to join a vocational training course
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What do you want to do after secondary school?
2. Why is going to university important to Hong Kong students?
3. How can young people learn more about different careers?
4. When should students start thinking about their career?
5. Would you ever work for no pay to get some job experience?
6. Would you like to go to a foreign country to gain work experience?
7. Which do you think is more important: qualifications or experience?
8. Why do you think employers value vocational training?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

These are extracts taken from a Book Club's Facebook page:

About the Book Club	
<p><i>When and where do you meet?</i> Book Club meetings are held every Friday in the School Library from 4pm-5pm.</p> <p><i>How is it structured?</i> Every week, members will get a worksheet that highlights 10 important vocabulary items and 8 quotes from the text that we will discuss in our weekly meeting.</p>	<p><i>What kind of books do you read?</i> We just finished reading the classic, 'Pride and Prejudice' by Jane Austen. Next on our list is 'Wuthering Heights' by Emily Brontë, another female writer from 19th century England.</p> <p><i>How much does it cost?</i> It's free but you need to buy your own books.</p> <p><i>How many members are there?</i> We currently have eight members who attend regularly.</p>
Comments	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- "It was hard to stay awake. Maybe snacks might help...?"- "I couldn't get myself to read the first book and then I felt bad, so I didn't come back."- "I never had a chance to participate – always the same people who dominate the discussion."- "Do we have to learn vocabulary and grammar? I'd rather just chat about the book."- "We already read classics in English lessons! Can we read books that are more up to date?"	

Your group has been asked to suggest changes to improve the Book Club. You are meeting to discuss this. You may want to talk about:

- why students should join a book club
- why students may not be interested in joining a book club
- how to make meetings more interesting and enjoyable for students
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What types of books do you enjoy reading?
2. Do you prefer reading paper books or e-books?
3. Would you rather join a book club or a film club?
4. Are Hong Kong people too busy to read books?
5. Do you think a book club is a good place to make friends?
6. Would you join a book club that meets online?
7. Which do you learn more from: fiction or non-fiction books?
8. What's the difference between reading for pleasure and reading for study?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

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DO NOT TAKE AWAY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in a local newspaper:

The smells of Hong Kong

Hong Kong is 'fragrant harbour' in Cantonese. There are actually many different smells, not necessarily pleasant and fragrant, that can make people think of this city. The following are some examples.

Money

Hong Kong is a financial centre in Asia. It is no surprise that the smell of money, both banknotes and coins, is a symbolic smell of the city.

Seafood

One never forgets the strong smell of dried seafood in Sheung Wan and the smell of shrimp paste in Sai Kung. All over Hong Kong, in wet markets, the odour of fish stalls is another reminder of how close Hong Kong is to the sea.

Joss sticks and incense

In Chinese temples, burning joss sticks and incense gives off a relaxing and woody fragrance that reflects the cultural roots of Hong Kong.

Street food

Hong Kong people love street food, particularly food that has strong flavours and smells: curry fish balls, stinky tofu, egg tarts and fried chestnuts.

Exhaust fumes on the road

Unpleasant as it may be, the smell of the exhaust gases from cars, lorries and buses all year round just reflects the busy traffic and the energy of the city.

Greenery

Contrary to most people's first impression, 75 percent of Hong Kong's territory is actually green: country parks, agricultural or semi-rural land. The refreshing and calming scents of trees and grass always offer escape from the stress of city life.

The Tourism Board is organising an event called 'Discover Hong Kong'. Your group wants to set up a stall to introduce the different smells of Hong Kong. You may want to talk about:

- why introducing Hong Kong through smells is a good idea
- which three smells best represent Hong Kong and why
- ways to attract visitors to your stall
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What is your favourite smell?
2. What smell do you hate most?
3. What smells remind you of your school?
4. What smell do you like most in nature?
5. What smells remind you of your home?
6. Would you buy something because it smells good?
7. Should foods that have strong smells be banned in public areas?
8. Should movies incorporate smell in their production?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

DO NOT TAKE AWAY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in a TV guide:

Talent-based reality TV shows

Stars Academy is a reality show and singing competition held in Hong Kong with a judging panel of 25 professional musicians. In the latest season, 15 young performers went through several rounds of performance competitions, with the lowest rated singers being sent home. Weeks had different themes, such as 'Cantonese golden songs' and duets with famous pop stars. The final episode was broadcast in several local shopping malls, and audience voting helped to determine the Grand Champion 'Legendary Rising Star'.

MasterChef Junior is a US cooking competition involving children from the ages of 8-13. Based on the UK show *MasterChef*, it features celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay, who judges the participants' cooking skills and techniques in various challenges. In the Skills Test, contestants must create a unique dish using only the special ingredients in the Mystery Box. In the Team Challenge, the cooks operate a pop-up restaurant, and real diners vote for their favourite meal.

America's Got Talent is a talent show competition that attracts a variety of participants from across the United States and abroad with various types of talent. Acts include singing, dancing, comedy, magic, stunts, variety and more. Each participant who auditions tries to impress a panel of celebrity judges and ultimately win a large cash prize.



A local TV company is inviting the public to share their views about TV talent shows. Your group has been invited to take part. You may want to talk about:

- why TV talent shows are popular
- how participants can benefit from being in TV talent shows
- what problems participants could face when taking part in TV talent shows
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you watch TV talent shows?
2. Would you like to be on a TV talent show?
3. Which do you like to watch more: people singing or people cooking?
4. How can young people develop their talents?
5. Do you agree that talent can be developed through hard work?
6. Do you think people can develop a new talent later in life?
7. Should students pursue artistic talents rather than academics?
8. Why does being talented not always lead to success?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared on a UK website:

Top jobs of the future

Experts are constantly trying to predict what the next top jobs will be. Here are just a few that are likely to be in demand over the next 15 years.



Artist – Are you creative? From video gaming, animation and virtual reality to packaging design, landscape design, fashion and advertising, a talent for art can be useful in a wide range of careers.



Healthcare worker – By 2039, the number of people aged 75+ will have doubled, meaning a huge demand for people to work in healthcare. These can be careers with plenty of opportunities to progress.



Construction worker – The construction industry needs thousands of people every year to take up both manual and non-manual roles. Apprenticeships can train people for jobs in wood trades, bricklaying and electrics.



Nature conservation officer – Protecting a particular habitat such as a mangrove forest or a stretch of coastline helps to improve the environment as well as encourage people to respect and enjoy it. These officers do work that we all benefit from in one way or another.



Software developer – Computer programming skills are needed everywhere, from cloud computing and artificial intelligence to business intelligence and gaming, and other possibilities yet to be imagined.

Your school is holding a job fair on the theme of 'Jobs of the Future'. Your group is discussing the topic. You may want to talk about:

- why there will be a demand for the jobs mentioned in the article
- which jobs will attract the most students
- how to promote the job fair
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What job would you like to do?
2. What jobs would you not like to do?
3. Who would you ask for advice when choosing a job?
4. Would you prefer a job in technology or the arts?
5. Is salary important to you when choosing a job?
6. Do you think it is important to try different jobs?
7. Should students start planning their careers in secondary school?
8. What jobs do you think will disappear in the future?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in a lifestyle magazine:

Homeschooling

Homeschooling is a type of education where parents teach their children at home instead of sending them to school. There are different reasons why parents may choose to homeschool their kids: personal education beliefs, financial circumstances, health reasons, and so on.

Why is homeschooling so popular?

For some children, the pace of learning at school is simply too fast or too slow. At home, they get to set their own pace. It is also a flexible way of learning, giving families more time to spend together, as the kids can learn from anywhere. It can also be much cheaper than sending your child to a private school. Another benefit is that homeschoolers typically score 15-30% higher than public school students on tests. Here are some statistics.

Reasons for Homeschooling in the USA

Emphasis on family	8%
Health problems	4%
Moral/religious reasons	20%
Poor quality of education	15%
Safety	24%
Special educational needs	7%
Long commute to school	8%
Other reasons	14%

How about Hong Kong?

In Hong Kong, you won't hear of many students being homeschooled. While it isn't illegal, the government does push for parents to send their children to traditional schools.

Your group is discussing the idea of homeschooling in Hong Kong. You may want to talk about:

- pros of homeschooling
- cons of homeschooling
- whether homeschooling will become more popular in Hong Kong
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you like studying at home?
2. Would you like to be homeschooled?
3. Do you think homeschooling would be easier than going to school?
4. Why don't parents in Hong Kong homeschool their children?
5. Do parents make good homeschooling teachers?
6. Why do you think homeschoolers score higher on tests?
7. Who would benefit most from homeschooling?
8. Do you think homeschooling is the future of education?

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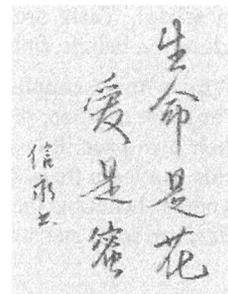
The Lost Art of Handwriting

Technology seems to have affected our handwriting ability. The digital age, with its typing and its texting, has left us unable to jot down the simplest of notes with anything like penmanship.



But does it matter? Some people think so. Many application forms are still completed the old-fashioned way. So are many school assignments. Both of them are judged by the way we form letters on the page. Writing also provides a means to practise hand-eye co-ordination and fine motor skills. Some experts even suggest a link between handwriting and learning ability.

Then there are the more subjective arguments from those who consider writing to be an art form, a historical tradition, a means of expression and even a part of cultural identity. In East Asia, for thousands of years, calligraphy has been regarded as an important art form. Today, in many Chinese and Japanese schools, calligraphy is still taught. In the West, penmanship might not have been quite so recognized as such a major form of art. Yet, calligraphy can still be often seen on Instagram. This shows exactly how relevant and alive beautiful handwriting still is, giving us a means to connect to our cultural roots and express our creativity, as well as some rare moments of silence.



Your school is setting up some new clubs. You are meeting to discuss whether a calligraphy club is a good choice. You may want to talk about:

- whether handwriting is still important today
- how students can improve their handwriting
- activities that can be held by the club
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you like to do your homework with pen and paper?
2. Do you usually take notes with pen and paper?
3. Should teachers give extra marks for good handwriting?
4. Is calligraphy more popular among young people or older people?
5. Should calligraphy be made a school subject?
6. Is it fair to judge a person by their handwriting?
7. Why do you think people collect art like calligraphy?
8. Do you think that handwriting can show someone's personality?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

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PART A Group Interaction

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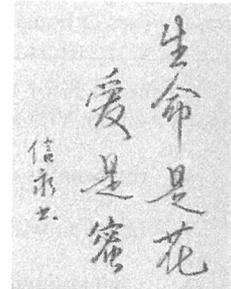
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PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in a magazine:

Urban farming

Around 90 percent of the food eaten in Hong Kong is imported from Mainland China and other locations. But while Hong Kong is one of the most crowded places on earth, there is still considerable space to grow food locally.

Urban farming promoters say growing food in unusual spaces – on mall rooftops, housing estate terraces, even in office buildings – could help the environment and improve local health.

“Growing your own food is a necessary skill that we all need to learn to ensure a sustainable and green planet,” said one urban farmer. “Nothing is more important than the education of the next generation of urban farmers. Now is the time.”

There are now more than 60 rooftop farms across Hong Kong, growing foods like carrots, radishes, and fruit. Yet more than 600 million square metres of rooftops are still unused. “This situation needs to change,” said the farmer. “Rooftops in Hong Kong are often empty, open spaces that are not in use. Why not take advantage of this?”

Benefits of local urban farming include lower pollution levels due to less shipping, better access to healthy fruits and vegetables, and a sense of community spirit among urban farmers. The food can also be given to poor families or homeless people to reduce the problem of hunger.

You are members of the school’s Cookery Club. Your group would like to start an urban farm on your school’s rooftop. You are meeting to discuss this. You may want to talk about:

- the benefits of having a farm on the school’s rooftop
- how you will organise the care of the farm
- what you will do with the food you grow
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you think farming is a good hobby?
2. Are you interested in visiting rooftop farms?
3. If you had a farm, what would you grow?
4. Why do people enjoy visiting farms?
5. Are young people more interested in farming these days?
6. Should schools offer after-school farming classes?
7. Other than farming, what else can rooftops be used for?
8. What are the possible problems of having a rooftop farm?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared on a business news website:

Ways teens can earn money online		
Job	Duties	How much you can earn
Instagram Influencer	Promote your own products or advertise a company's products or services	HK\$675 per post for 5K followers or as much as HK\$5,000 per post for over 1 million followers.
Blogging/Vlogging	Blog or make videos about your passion or a topic of interest; do product reviews	HK\$2,000-HK\$3,000 per month (Teens starting out may earn less).
Completing online surveys	Get paid for completing surveys, watching videos and shopping	You can earn points which can be redeemed for cash or gift cards. To earn enough money, you may need to sign up to at least 8-10 sites.
Online tutoring	Tutor other students online and help them with their homework	HK\$100 per hour; up to HK\$500 as you gain experience.

Your careers teacher would like your group to discuss online job options for students. You may want to talk about:

- the advantages of working online
- the disadvantages of working online
- which online job Hong Kong teenagers would be most interested in
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. What online job would you like to do?
2. Does your school help students to find jobs?
3. Would you rather work online or work in an office?
4. Do you think having an online job might affect your studies?
5. How would your parents feel if you had an online job?
6. What kind of volunteer work could people do online?
7. Should people under sixteen be allowed to work online?
8. Do you think working online will be the trend of the future?

DO NOT TAKE AWAY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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Completing online surveys	Get paid for completing surveys, watching videos and shopping	You can earn points which can be redeemed for cash or gift cards. To earn enough money, you may need to sign up to at least 8-10 sites.
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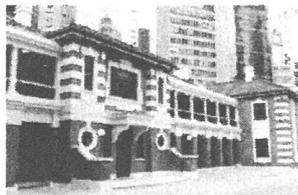
PART A Group Interaction

This advertisement for a local tour company appeared on an educational website:

Get out of the classroom and into the real world! Hong Kong is packed with learning opportunities away from the textbooks. Here's just a sample of some of the amazing places the city has to offer. Enquire in store for a tailor-made educational tour experience at one of the following attractions:



The Hong Kong Science Museum features the wonders of modern science and innovations in technology. Explore more than 500 exhibits featuring robotics, transportation, simulation, light, telecommunications, sound, motion, electronics and virtual reality. Come be amazed by the 22-metre-high Energy Machine and the real aircraft hanging from the ceiling.



Tai Kwun comprises 16 revitalised heritage buildings, including the former Central Police Station, Central Magistracy and Victoria Prison. Experience the past by sitting in the tiny, cramped cells and reading the stories of former prisoners. Then, enjoy an exciting mix of visual arts, music and theatre performances, film screenings, educational programmes and free concerts.



Mai Po Nature Reserve in Yuen Long offers a magical encounter with diverse ecosystems and thriving biodiversity. Enjoy a guided walk through stunning scenery such as marshes and wetlands. The best time for birdwatching is in spring and autumn when birds come to feed on fish, shrimp and crabs among the mangroves. Don't forget your binoculars and umbrella!

Your class is organising a school trip to a local attraction. Your group has been invited to help plan the trip. You may want to talk about:

- the benefits of learning outside of the classroom
- what to consider when deciding which attraction to choose
- which of these attractions your group would recommend
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you like going on school trips?
2. Would you like to join an overseas school trip?
3. When is the best time for a school trip?
4. What other local attractions do students like to visit?
5. Which do you like more: science or history?
6. Is walking in nature a waste of time?
7. Should schools offer more learning outside of the classroom?
8. How do you think school trips will change in the future?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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DO NOT TAKE AWAY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared on a local university website:

'Take-A-Nap' campaign

Adults are recommended to get 7 to 9 hours of quality sleep every night, and teenagers and young adults may require even more rest time. But sometimes your schedule simply does not allow you to get a full night of sleep. Research suggests that a short nap for 20 minutes during the day has many benefits. It can relieve eye or brain fatigue and restore brain function including attention and memory. It can help you work better, think more clearly, and balance your emotions.

To improve students' wellbeing, the Wellness Centre is collaborating with the Library to launch the 'Take-A-Nap' campaign. Visit the Library to experience an energy-reviving nap in one of our sleeping pods that will boost both your health and your academic performance.

The sleeping pods are a special type of chair designed to give you a perfectly timed, energy-reviving nap for your health and enjoyment. They let you recline at a comfortable sleeping angle, while playing soft music through your headphones and emitting coloured lighting to help you relax and refresh. After 20 minutes, the pod will gently wake you up with increasing light and vibration.



You are committee members of your school's Health Club. Your club is thinking of buying sleeping pods for the school. You are meeting to discuss this topic. You may want to talk about:

- the benefits of taking afternoon naps
- how to promote the use of sleeping pods
- whether afternoon naps should be included in the school timetable
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you like taking naps?
2. How many hours of sleep do you need?
3. Do students get enough sleep?
4. Would you like to try the sleeping pods?
5. Where else would sleeping pods be useful?
6. Other than a nap, what are ways to re-energise yourself?
7. Does napping make you more productive?
8. Why do some people think napping is bad?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This announcement appeared on a website:

Mascot Design Contest for Cross Harbour Race



The Cross Harbour Race is a popular Hong Kong sports event which attracts hundreds of swimmers and thousands of spectators each year. Swimming 1.8 km across the Victoria Harbour from Tsim Sha Tsui to Wan Chai, the race perfectly blends both nature and city experience together. The event has also attracted significant media attention with vibrant photos of athletes diving into Victoria Harbour against the picturesque backdrops of Hong Kong's mountain and skyscraper views. With its 70 years of history, the cross harbour swim advocates the strong Lion Rock Spirit which truly fosters the pride of Hong Kong.

The organisers of the race are inviting people to enter a contest to design a mascot for the Cross Harbour Race. Sport mascots are often animals with humanlike characteristics and distinct personalities who represent something meaningful or unique about the event.

The goal of the Mascot Design Contest is to design a character inspired by the Hong Kong Cross Harbour Race. The mascot image should appeal to people of all ages. It will be used to raise awareness and promote the race, and will be a symbol of the swimming race appearing on t-shirts, water bottles, and souvenirs.

Your teacher wants your class to enter this Mascot Design Contest. Your group is meeting to discuss ideas for designing a mascot. You may want to talk about:

- what qualities make a good mascot
- what to consider when choosing a mascot for the Cross Harbour Race
- whether you would recommend using any of the characters shown above
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Are sports events popular in Hong Kong?
2. Do you like watching sports events?
3. Is the Cross Harbour Race suitable for people of all ages?
4. Why do people like to buy toys and other souvenirs at sports events?
5. How else could the Cross Harbour Race be promoted in Hong Kong?
6. How can Hong Kong benefit from holding major sports events?
7. Why do large corporations sponsor major sports events?
8. Do mascots appeal to people of all ages?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared in an American newspaper:

Instant noodles have changed the world

When Japanese businessman Momofuku Ando died in January 2007, *The New York Times* devoted a page to a man who had earned “a place in the history of human progress”. This was not an inventor who had helped create the bullet train or an electronics firm that had grown to become the envy of every developed economy. He had perfected the humble dish of instant noodles.

His creation – 60 years ago this August – remains unmistakable around the world and even more so than brands like Sony, Honda or Sharp, which represent Japan’s recovery from the Second World War.

Ando watched his wife frying dinner and he realised that frying noodles quickly would remove the water they contained. The noodles could then be stored and when boiling water was added, the dry noodles would be ready to eat. He released the first packet of pre-cooked instant noodles in 1958. They were a huge hit straight away because they were quick, cheap and convenient.

Ando sought out new markets and travelled to the US in 1966 looking at ways of selling instant noodles to Americans and that prompted Ando’s second idea – to sell the noodles in a cup that was easy for anyone to eat.

Today, 100 billion portions of instant noodles are eaten around the world every year, all of this despite increasing concerns that instant noodles contain too much salt and chemical additives and are bad for the environment.



Your school is holding an exhibition on inventions that changed the world. Your group is thinking about including instant noodles in the exhibition. You may want to talk about:

- why instant noodles are popular
- whether instant noodles should be included in the exhibition
- other inventions that could be included
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Do you like instant noodles?
2. Do you often eat fast food?
3. Should students be allowed to eat any food they like at school?
4. Which fast food would you choose to represent Hong Kong?
5. Should the school tuck shop sell instant noodles?
6. Does eating instant noodles encourage poor eating habits?
7. Can students learn from past inventions?
8. What are the qualities of a successful inventor?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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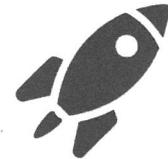
Space Tourism

In 2021, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos became the second billionaire within a week to reach outer space. He travelled aboard his company's Blue Origin rocket on a spaceflight that lasted 10 minutes. Virgin Galactic founder Sir Richard Branson was the first billionaire to head up to the skies, reaching 88 km above Earth's surface and becoming weightless for several minutes.

Some experts say private space travel could bring about a new era of space exploration, where you no longer have to be a trained astronaut to fly. It's a pretty exciting idea, but what are the pros and cons?

On the positive side, some experts say private space travel speeds up the rate of research, meaning more cool new technologies will be invented. New technology could also make space travel cheaper, which could encourage more exploration of the universe. This could make it possible to return to the moon, or even reach Mars.

On the negative side, space travel can be damaging to the environment, as chemicals from rocket fumes pollute the air. So-called 'space junk' – damaged pieces of space vehicles floating through space – can also be a problem, potentially damaging satellites or even falling down to earth. And more space travel also means more potential for terrible accidents.



You are members of your school's Science Club. You have gathered to discuss the issue of private space travel. You may want to talk about:

- the benefits of private space travel
- the disadvantages of private space travel
- whether private space travel should be encouraged
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. Would you like to go to outer space?
2. Are you interested in outer space?
3. Is going to outer space a good use of time and money?
4. Why are some rich people so interested in going to outer space?
5. Why are some people interested in studying outer space?
6. Do you think space travellers are heroes?
7. What qualities make a good space traveller?
8. Do you think humans will live on other planets one day?

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

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PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

DO NOT TAKE AWAY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

PART A Group Interaction

This article appeared on a business news website:

Shopping on Social Media

What is it?

Shopping on social media allows users to directly buy products through platforms like Instagram and Facebook. It's done via specialised posts with links to product pages. Some social media platforms allow you to set up shop pages which give you access to all the e-commerce tools you need to sell on the platform.

In Hong Kong, the average user spends more than two hours a day on social media. This makes social media platforms the ideal place for businesses to find customers, engage with them, and let them buy all in one space.

Do shoppers like it?

Maybe not! For starters, just 41% of social media users feel comfortable buying products directly on social apps, and only 37% trust platforms with their credit card information. And when it comes to the products sold directly on social platforms, just 21% of social media users view them as high quality.

What's stopping shoppers?

By far, the biggest concern of consumers is that companies selling products directly on social media aren't real or could be scamming customers. As mentioned above, suspicions regarding the quality of the product and sharing card information with social platforms also play a huge role. If you are planning to start a shop on social media platforms, keep this in mind!



Your group is doing a project on shopping on social media. You are meeting to discuss this. You may want to talk about:

- the benefits of shopping on social media
- the benefits of selling on social media
- how shopping through social media may affect traditional businesses
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

1. How much time do you spend on social media?
2. Do you buy things on social media?
3. Do you trust shops on social media?
4. Do you think you will buy more through social media in the future?
5. Have you had any bad experiences shopping on social media?
6. Do online reviews help you decide whether to buy something?
7. Will shopping through social media become the norm?
8. Should selling on social media be more regulated?

DO NOT TAKE AWAY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of two parts: Part A, Group Interaction; and Part B, Individual Response. Part B will immediately follow Part A. DO NOT write anything on this page.

PART A Group Interaction

You will be given 10 minutes to prepare. The time allowed for the group interaction is 8 minutes (or 6 minutes for a group of 3 candidates). You may make notes on the notecard provided and refer to your notes during the discussion.

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- the benefits of selling on social media
- how shopping through social media may affect traditional businesses
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.