



**MANDARIN CHINESE**

**9778/04**

Paper 4 Chinese Culture

**May/June 2013**

**2 hours 30 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 texts or films into the examination.

Answer **one** question from Section 1: Topics in Chinese Culture **AND one** question from Section 2: Chinese Literature and Film.

**Section 1: Topics in Chinese Culture**

Answer **one** question in **English**. Choose **EITHER** Question (a) **OR** Question (b) from **one** topic. 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.

**Section 2: Chinese Literature and Film**

Answer **one** question in **English**. Choose **EITHER** Question (a) **OR** Question (b) from **one** literary text/film. 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.

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



You must answer **ONE** question from Section 1 and **ONE** question from Section 2.

### SECTION 1: TOPICS IN CHINESE CULTURE

Choose **EITHER** Question (a) **OR** Question (b) from **ONE** of the topics 1–3 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.

#### 1 The Founding of the People's Republic of China

**EITHER:**

(a) What methods did the new government of the People's Republic of China use to achieve political control (1949–1956)? How successful were these methods?

**OR:**

(b) How far would you agree that the role of the Soviet Union was crucial in the early years of the People's Republic of China (1949–1956)?

#### 2 Chinese Economic Trends since 1978

**EITHER:**

(a) 'China's consumption patterns have changed remarkably over the past 30 years.' How far would you agree with this statement? Discuss with specific examples.

**OR:**

(b) To what extent would you agree that China is still a developing country? Give examples to support your answer.

#### 3 The City of Beijing

**EITHER:**

(a) 'Every year millions come to Beijing to build its bridges, roads, and houses. Each year they build a Beijing equal to the size of the city in 1949.' Discuss the impact of development and the influx of migrant workers on the city of Beijing in recent years.

**OR:**

(b) 'Beijing in the year 1800, with about one million inhabitants, was not only one of the world's most populous and prosperous cities but also one of its best organised'. Discuss this statement with reference to specific aspects of Beijing.

You must answer **ONE** question from Section 1 and **ONE** question from Section 2.

## SECTION 2: CHINESE LITERATURE AND FILM

Choose **EITHER** Question (a) **OR** Question (b) from **ONE** of the topics 4–6 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.

### 4 *The Picador Book of Contemporary Chinese Fiction*

**EITHER:**

- (a) Discuss the development of the relationship between adult and child in *One Centimetre* **and** one other story. Illustrate your answer with specific examples.

**OR:**

- (b) ‘*The Lovesick Crow and other Fables* illustrate themes which appear in the rest of the anthology – the absurd aspects of Party ideology and the struggle of the individual.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Discuss with reference to the fables **and** one or two other stories.

### 5 *Red Dust, Ma Jian*

**EITHER:**

- (a) ‘I left Beijing because I wanted to be alone and to forge my own path, but I know now that no path is solitary, we all tread across other people’s beginnings and ends.’ To what extent does this statement sum up Ma Jian’s journey? Discuss with specific examples from the book.

**OR:**

- (b) What techniques does Ma Jian employ to convey the sense of a new place he visits to the reader? Discuss with reference to *The Wind-Blown Soil* and one other section of the novel.

### 6 *Yellow Earth, Chen Kaige*

**EITHER:**

- (a) Discuss the portrayal of Cui Qiao in the film and the cinematographic techniques used in this portrayal.

**OR:**

- (b) Outline the use of songs in the film. To what extent do the songs illustrate the central theme of bringing the new (Communist ideology) to the old (traditional peasantry)?

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