



- Writing: study the questions and outline the structure or sequence with examples to support your ideas or opinions before you start writing.

#### *Advice for teachers*

- Assist in improving the students' ability to recognise and use linguistic and grammatical textual conventions.
- Assist in improving student ability to analyse the questions.

### **Comments on specific sections and questions**

#### **Written examination**

##### **Section One: Listening and responding Part A (10 Marks)**

In this section, most candidates were able to give the answers correctly. Some candidates were able to identify and analyse the question with the linguistic and grammatical textual conventions.

##### **Section One: Listening and responding Part B (10 Marks)**

This section required candidates to demonstrate an understanding of traditional views and contemporary issues for a future career choice and the ability to compare and contrast these issues. Poor candidate answers typically provided a simple recount of the texts as their own answers (without mentioning the spoken texts that they heard). Better performing candidates were able to identify the key information from the two spoken texts, which related to the themes and contemporary issues in the syllabus, and analyse and summarise the information into a well-structured answer.

##### **Section Two: Reading and responding Part A (15 Marks)**

This section required candidates to identify the personalities of the film's main characters and identify and analyse the key issues imbedded in the conversation and the events of the film. Better performing candidates were able to identify Mrs Huang's Chinese traditional values and provide an analytical account of Jiajia Wen's psychological characteristics. They were also able to extract and identify the inner changes that happened to Jiajia Wen, with references to the film.

This section also required familiarity with the prescribed texts and related background knowledge. It required understanding of exactly what the question asked; how times and circumstances influence ones' decision-making for their life's path choice. Some candidates did not provide the reasons related to the era and circumstances, which caused the main characters to change their life path choices. Better performing candidates were able to demonstrate a perceptive and insightful ability to analyse the choices made by the characters, and provide details as to why and how they happened with supporting examples.

##### **Section Two: Reading and responding Part B (15 Marks)**

This section required candidates to understand and evaluate the issues raised in the text, and to provide a well-structured critical argument with references from the text. Most candidates demonstrated the ability to elaborate on the author's opinion regarding the meaning of 'beauty', and gave supporting examples. A few candidates did not follow the text type or text length requirement.

##### **Section Three: Writing in Chinese (25 Marks)**

In general, candidates demonstrated the appropriate ability to compose an article and to express ideas, information, and opinions.

Some candidates tried to discuss the trend of materialism in young people's lives today without explaining the concepts of the Chinese colloquialisms 月光族 and 月欠族. Most candidates demonstrated the ability to understand the concepts and discuss the topic in a well-structured, sequential and logical manner.

Some candidates did not read the second question carefully (the core issue was how to deal with cultural conflict) and they concentrated on giving advice as to what should or should not be done as a student studying in another country. Better performing candidates provided real-life examples of cultural conflict and how they were dealt with.