When examination committees develop questions for the examination, they may write ‘sample answers’ or, in the case of some questions, ‘answers could include’. The committees do this to ensure that the questions will effectively assess students’ knowledge and skills.

This material is also provided to the Supervisor of Marking, to give some guidance about the nature and scope of the responses the committee expected students would produce. How sample answers are used at marking centres varies. Sample answers may be used extensively and even modified at the marking centre OR they may be considered only briefly at the beginning of marking. In a few cases, the sample answers may not be used at all at marking.

The Board publishes this information to assist in understanding how the marking guidelines were implemented.

The ‘sample answers’ or similar advice contained in this document are not intended to be exemplary or even complete answers or responses. As they are part of the examination committee’s ‘working document’, they may contain typographical errors, omissions, or only some of the possible correct answers.
Section I — Response to Prescribed Text
Part A

Question 1 (a)

Sample answer:
Lili was desperate to speak to Professor Yu. She wanted to persuade him to be Xiao Chun’s violin teacher.

Question 1 (b)

Answers could include:
• Direct and outspoken, bossy
• Vengeful, bearing grudge
• Doesn’t want to be indebted to anyone
• Takes responsibility to redress any wrongs made

Question 1 (c)

Sample answer:
Initially Professor Yu is adamant that he is not going to take any students. However, after hearing what Lili has told him, he is curious to know more about Xiao Chun, the person who causes all this drama. Professor Yu is impressed by the emotions displayed in Xiao Chun’s violin playing and admires Xiao Chun’s audacity in expressing his infatuation with Lili. After recognising Xiao Chun’s talent, Professor Yu tries to be friendly and is eager to be his teacher.

Question 1 (d)

Sample answer:
Lili has been very materialistic and self-centred. However, the audacity of Xiao Chun in showing his infatuation for her has touched Lili and prompted her to reflect on her way of life. She is now more thoughtful and tries to redress the wrong she has done.

Professor Yu’s remark ‘Have you got a beard?’ shows that Xiao Chun is going through puberty, which fuels his attraction to Lili. He is impetuous in selling his violin but this action is the result of his perplexity about whether playing the violin is the sole purpose of his life.