



2012 Heritage Chinese (Mandarin) 'Sample Answers'

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 1: Responding to texts

Question 1

Answer could include:

- The director welcomed us and told us to maintain a happy working atmosphere.
- We should be patient with the elderly when they are slow-moving and learn from their experience and knowledge.
- We should use simple phrases when communicating with Australian-born Chinese children, eg explaining Chinese culture to them in a story-telling way.

Question 2

Answer may include:

The advertisement is effective because of:

- the eye-catching title that promises a potential future if one masters the Chinese language
- its promises of customised lessons, the guaranteed results, half fee if you enrol promptly
- language used, eg rhetorical questions using personal words such as ‘you’, and using short, sharp statements

The advertisement can also be viewed as ineffective provided this approach is well justified with textual references.



Question 3

Answer could include:

- Don't be distracted by other people's business
- Nothing is more important than studying
- Respect one's teachers
- The environment protection issue doesn't mean much in terms of 'monetary value'

Reflection:

- Being regretful for upsetting his mother
- His leading role in the Environment Protection Committee at school was criticised by his mother as 'nosy', 'putting studying at a lower priority', 'disrespecting teachers by accusing them of not doing the right things' and 'saving a few dollars from water or electricity is trivial'.

Empathy:

- What she said is in his best interests
- The mother's opinions reflect her traditional Chinese perspective

The son knows his mother wants him to put his own future as the top priority. Whatever she says is in his best interests.

He also understands his mother's disappointment with his attitude towards her.

Question 4

Answer may include:

- In email format
- Acknowledge Mingming's good job in finding the blog

Features of the email may include:

- she follows celebrities closely and wishes she could be one
- she is into technology, eg browses websites, chats online, and visits blogs. She also wants to upgrade to a more advanced tablet
- longing for love
- willing to do voluntary work
- taking their parents for granted, eg getting them to pay for the airfare, birthday present etc.



Question 5

Answer may include:

- Comment on the relevance of the slogans' content in Australian contexts – such as:
 - The slogans are valuable to Australian students because we are all young people who share similar values, eg diligence, modesty, pragmatic attitude towards one's life and the flexibility.

However, if there are irrelevances in some responses, they may be acceptable provided they have proper explanation.

- Explaining the meaning of the five slogans
- Emphasising the attribute of each slogan, eg diligence, taking action, being realistic, being modest and being flexible.

Question 6 (a)

Sample answer:

The correct choices are: A, E and F.

Question 6 (b)

Answer could include:

Poem 1: Public social manner respecting the elderly and looking up to individuals who embody traditional morality. The elderly person was ignored and the meritorious act was not appreciated.

Poem 2: The importance of neighbours as exemplified in the old saying 'distant relatives are less important than near neighbours'. The sense of community has disappeared from modern Chinese urban lifestyles.

Poem 3: Old people, particularly females, should not have to struggle for survival but enjoy their senior life and be looked after by their young. The wide wealth gap, and perhaps with the breakdown of filial piety, means that this traditional social practice has not been sustained.