2012 Senior External Examination

Chinese

Reading section — Question and response book

Time allowed

- Perusal time: 10 minutes
- Working time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Examination materials provided

- Reading section — Question and response book
- Notepaper

Equipment allowed

- QSA-approved equipment

Directions

Do not write in this book until perusal time is finished.
The Reading section has three tasks.
You must:
  - attempt all tasks
  - respond in English.
Dictionaries are not allowed.

Assessment

Assessment standards are at the end of this book.

After the Reading section is finished

The supervisor will collect this book.
Planning space
There are three tasks in this section. Respond to all three tasks.
For each task, read the Chinese text and respond in clear, concise English.
Base your responses on information from the texts.
Write your responses in the spaces provided.
Task 1

Read the following text and respond in English to the questions on the next page. Provide as many relevant details as possible.

俗话说：“有钱就拥有一切。”言下之意就是说钱是万能的，只要有了钱，就会有各种的物质享受，就会有幸福、健康、快乐！

然而，曾读过这样一个故事：一个欧洲观光团来到非洲的一个原始部落，部落里有位老人，正盘着腿安静地坐在一棵树下做草帽。一位法国商人问：“这些草帽多少钱一顶？”老人微笑着回答：“十个比索。”“我给你一千万比索，你给我做十万顶草帽。”“对不起，那样的话，我就不做了。”“为什么？”老人说：“如果让你做十万顶一模一样的草帽，你不会感到乏味吗？既然不快乐，要再多的钱有什么用呢？”

在现实生活中，有很多东西都是钱“遥不可及”的。钱可以买到美食但买不到食欲；钱可以买到药物但买不到健康；钱可以买到床但买不到睡眠；钱可以买到房屋但买不到家庭温暖；钱可以买到纸笔但买不到文思；钱可以买到书籍但买不到智慧；钱可以买到娱乐但买不到快乐；钱可以买到珍贵首饰但买不到心灵美；钱可以买到服从但买不到忠诚；钱可以买到奉承但买不到尊敬；钱可以买到核武器但买不到和平。

这些钱买不到的东西在我们的现实生活中无疑也是非常重要的。没有这些东西，钱再多又有什么用呢？
Question 1
What are the two points of view presented in the article?

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Question 2
How does the writer convince the reader of their point of view? Support your response with information from the text.

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End of Task 1
Task 2

Read the following text and respond in English to the questions on the next page. Provide as many relevant details as possible.

在中国，古人常说：“诗中有画，画中有诗。”这就是说，一首好的诗可以用画画出来；一幅好的画也就是一首没有文字的诗。

有一次，有人用一句诗“深山有古寺”作为画的题目，让三个画家进行画画比赛。

第一个画家画了深山里的一座古庙。

第二个画家画了几座山，山后露出古庙的一角。

第三个画家画了重重叠叠的山峰，密密的树林，林中有小桥流水和弯弯的小路，一个小和尚正挑着水往山里走去。

结果，第三幅画被评为最佳作品。

亲爱的读者朋友们，你们同意这个比赛结果吗？为什么呢？
Question 1
What did each artist paint?

Question 2
Which painting was regarded as the best? Why do you think it was chosen as the winning picture? Support your response with information from the text.

End of Task 2
Task 3

Read the following story and respond in English to the questions on the next page. Provide as many relevant details as possible.

财 富

李小龙在朋友的介绍下，在一家电子产品公司找到了一份负责销售的工作。他努力工作，热情接待每一客户。在短短的半年中，他的销售业绩非常优秀，为公司带来了好收益。

但是，一年以后，由于市场的无情竞争，李小龙所在的公司变得不景气了。老板只好缩小铺面的经营面积和裁减员工，以减少开支，节约资源，争取早日渡过这个困难的时刻。公司要裁减二十多人。不幸的是，李小龙也是其中的一人。想到自己就要离开这个公司了，李小龙的心情非常不好；但想到老板娘在困难的情况下，还向亲戚朋友借钱给员工发工资，他的心里又十分感动，也得到了一些安慰。

在发工资的那天，老板娘一分钱不少地发给了员工应得的工资。不过，当李小龙一连几次清点工资时，都发现老板娘多给了他五元钱。李小龙想：是老板娘弄错了吧，或者是她在故意考验我。就要走了，这五元钱怎么处理呢，要还是不要呢？李小龙想了好几个小时。

最后，李小龙还是找到老板娘，把不该得的五元钱还给了她。李小龙想起在出门前母亲的嘱咐：无论在哪里打工，都要做一个诚实质上进的人。

时间过得很快，转眼一年又过去了。这一天，李小龙接到了老板娘的电话，说她的生意又好了，需要李小龙这样诚实的员工帮忙。于是，李小龙结束了摆地摊的生涯，成为电子产品公司的业务经理，又开始了白领生涯。
Question 1
Why did Li Xiaolong lose his job?

Question 2
What happened to Li a year later? Why do you think that was the case? Explain your response using information from the text.

Question 3
What does the title mean? Do you think the title is referring to Li, the company or both? Explain your response using information from the text.

End of Task 3
End of Reading section
## Assessment standards from the Chinese Senior External Syllabus 2007
### Reading skill

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<td>• sociocultural references</td>
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**Standard A**
The candidate demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of main ideas from a range of texts; distinguishes gist from detail, main points from subsidiary ones; understands all or most of the significant points and the relationships between them; can draw appropriate conclusions; applies a knowledge of language to deduce meaning from context; recognises tone and can infer the purpose of the text and the writer’s attitude; understands familiar sociocultural references.

**Standard B**
The candidate demonstrates an effective grasp of the main ideas; usually distinguishes gist from detail, main points from subsidiary ones; recognises the relationship between significant points; can apply a knowledge of language to deduce some meaning from context; identifies the general purpose of the text and the writer’s attitudes when explicitly expressed and recognises some familiar sociocultural references.

**Standard C**
The candidate demonstrates an understanding of most of the main ideas when presented in a straightforward way; can apply a knowledge of structures to understand much specific detail; can see the relationship between points when marked by simple and familiar connectors; can deduce the meaning of some unknown words from context; recognises the writer’s general intention when obvious within a familiar context, may recognise some familiar sociocultural references.

**Standard D**
The candidate demonstrates an understanding of the very broad outline of straightforward texts and some detail in familiar language.

**Standard E**
The candidate occasionally demonstrates an understanding of isolated details expressed in familiar structures and vocabulary.