



AET2
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part II

Monday 5 June 2017 1.30 to 4.30 pm

Paper C11

Modern Chinese translation and writing 3

Answer *all* questions.

Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** answer booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 page answer booklet

Rough Work Pad

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

None

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.

1. Translate into **Chinese**. [33 marks]

Customs and traditions in China

China is an extremely large country, and the customs and traditions of its people vary by geography and ethnicity. More than 1 billion people live in China, according to the Asia Society, representing 56 ethnic minority groups. The largest group is the Han Chinese, with about 900 million people.

Currently, there are only five official religions. About a quarter of the people practise Taoism and other traditional religions. There are also small numbers of Buddhists, Muslims, and Christians. There are seven major groups of dialects of the Chinese language. The official national language of China is *Putonghua*, which is based on northern dialects. *Putonghua* is spoken by around 70% of the population. Many Chinese are also fluent in English. Like other aspects of Chinese life, cuisine is heavily influenced by geography and ethnic diversity. Among the main styles of Chinese cooking are Cantonese, which features stir-fried dishes, and Szechuan, which is known for its spiciness. Rice is the staple food for many people in China.

Chinese art is greatly influenced by the country's rich history. Many sculptures and paintings depict spiritual figures of Buddhism. Many musical instruments are integral to Chinese culture. China is also the birthplace of Eastern-style martial arts. This fighting technique is based on animal movements and was created in the mid-1600s, according to Black Belt Magazine. There were no lack of writers and philosophers in ancient China — especially during the Ming and Qing dynasties. The largest festival — also called the Spring Festival — marks the beginning of the Lunar New Year. It falls between mid-January and

mid-February and is a time to honor ancestors. The holiday is marked with fireworks and parades featuring dancers dressed as dragons or lions. The Moon Festival is celebrated in September or October with paper lanterns, moon gazing and mooncakes.

<http://www.livescience.com/28823-chinese-culture.html>

2. Translate into Chinese. [32 marks]

Blue Sky Project

North China's Tianjin city has started a "Blue Sky Project" to control the air pollution. Under the project requirements, the air quality in Tianjin is expected to measure up to the national standard by 2020, when two thirds of days in the year will enjoy fairly good or excellent air quality. In order to achieve the goal, Tianjin will take a series of measures such as controlling the use of coal, reducing the dust floating from construction sites, planting trees along the major streets, and replacing petrol with liquid natural gas as the fuel for vehicles.

Since people paid little attention to environmental protection, the air quality in Tianjin has worsened during the past decade. The project has received wide praise and support from the natives.

Tianjin's Tourism Administration endeavours to make Tianjin a famous attraction for domestic and foreign tourists. The Chinese have been enjoying themselves by sightseeing or travelling during the Spring Festival this year rather than engaging in the traditional gathering of relatives and friends at home.

(TURN OVER)

In the past five days, over 200, 000 Beijingers spent the one-week Spring Festival holiday shopping in Tianjin. Needless to say, low prices of consumer goods and the convenient railway service enable Beijingers to visit the neighboring city during the day. In addition, cleaner air also makes Tianjin a first choice for lots of Beijingers who do not wish to spend too much time on travelling, if they want to be away from Beijing for a short time.

Tourism is an important source of revenue for Tianjin. By making the air in the city cleaner, it is hoped to attract more people visiting the city. This is exactly one of the objectives of the 'Blue Sky Project'.

<http://www.kekenet.com/gaokao/201509/397224.shtml>

3. Write an essay in **CHINESE** on the following topic: **[35 marks]**

我眼中的中国

China as I see it

END OF PAPER

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