Paper C15

The Chinese Tradition: Chinese Writing

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
Gudai hanyu cidian (Chinese-Chinese dictionary)
Xiandai hanyu cidian (Chinese-Chinese dictionary)

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 English (25 marks).

[......] 古文、篆、隸隨世遞變，至漢 許氏始有《說文》，然重義而略於音，故世謂漢儒識文字而不識字母，江左之儒識四聲而不識七音。七音之傳自西域，以三十六字為母，從為四聲，橫為七音，而後天下之聲總於是焉。嘗考《管子》之書所載五方之民，其聲之清濁高下，各象其川原泉壤，淺深廣狹而生，故於五音必有所偏得，則能全備七音者鮮矣。此歷代相傳，取音者所以不能較若畫一也。自《說文》以後，字書善者，於漢則《五篇》，於唐則《廣韻》，於宋則《集韻》，於金則《五音集韻》，於元則《韻會》，於明則《洪武正韻》，皆流通當世，衣被後學。其傳而未甚顯者，尚數十百家。當其編纂，皆自謂毫髮無憾，而後儒推諱，輙多同異。或所收之字繁省失中，或所引之書謬疏無準，或字有數義而不詳，或音有數切而不備，皆無善兼美具，可奉為典常而不易者。[......]


遞變 *dibìan*: to evolve, change successively
從 *zhòng*: vertical(ly)
泉壤 *quánráng*: graves; what is under the ground
2. Translate into English (25 marks).

“收集從寬，入典從嚴” is courteous and a working principle. The Hanyu Dazidian aims to solve the problem of the historical and modern Chinese characters. The main research work is based on the Kangxi Dictionary, with additional entries from other dictionaries. The main thirteen sources include: Kangxi Dictionary, Seowen, Manuscript, Kangxi Dictionary, Chinese Calligraphy, Chinese Calligraphy, Yuwen Dictionary, Chinese Characters, Chinese Characters, Chinese Characters, and People's Daily. Each of these sources has its own dictionaries. The principle is that all entries are included. However, if a character is not included in the Kangxi Dictionary, it is included if it is included in any of the other sources. If the character is not included in any of the sources, it is included if it is included in any of the other sources.
3. Answer 2 of the following 6 questions (50 marks).

1. What impact did Buddhism have on Chinese writing?

2. Describe two of the main debates in modern Western scholarship concerning Chinese writing.

3. What were the primary reasons for the spread of Chinese writing in East Asia?

4. Why didn't the Tanguts not adopt Chinese writing but instead invented their own script?

5. What impact did knowledge about Chinese writing have in 17th-18th century Europe?

6. What do we learn from archaeological discoveries about the Chinese script during the Warring States period?

END OF PAPER