



ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS PART II

Chinese Studies

Monday 07 June 2010 13.30 to 16.30

C.17 MODERN CHINA: SPECIFIED SUBJECT

Section A: Aspects of Contemporary China

Section B: Literature, Modernity and Nation in the Twentieth Century

Section C: The Military in the Making of Modern China

*Candidates should answer three questions of **either** Section A **or** Section B **or** Section C.*

*All questions are of **equal** value.*

*Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** Answer Book.*

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 page Answer Book x 1

A Rough Work Pad

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

SECTION A:**Aspects of Contemporary China**

1. Elucidate state-society relationships in reform-era China through the lens of minority-nationality policies and religion.
2. Explain some of the beliefs and practices surrounding money among the Chinese.
3. What are the impacts of the one-child policy on traditional kinship structure, gender relations and status, and power relations between members of different generations?
4. How did *hukou* and *danwei* work as mechanisms of social control during the Maoist era? In what ways have they changed in the reform era? Explain these changes.
5. Discuss the impact of the 1989 student movement on the development of China's public sphere.
6. To what extent is it true to describe contemporary China as an increasingly consumerist society?
7. Discuss the transformation of Chinese society since the 1980s with reference to any two of the following three topics: cultural fever, popular music, or information technology.
8. Analyse the driving forces of China's economic growth since 1978.
9. "Reform strategies of China and Russia are actually endogenous variables rather than exogenous variables". Discuss.
10. Analyse the main reform policies of foreign trade and their impact on trade and economic development in China since 1978.

SECTION B:**Literature, Modernity and Nation in the Twentieth Century**

1. What aspects of Lu Xun's works have led to his presence in every canon of modern Chinese literature?
2. Why did Chinese writers turn to realism? What were some of the issues they encountered and how did they respond to them?
3. Drawing on works you have read, discuss some of the ways in which the relationship between the intellectuals and labourers has been depicted in modern Chinese literature.
4. Discuss the literary, historical or other significant aspects of any two literary works written after 1937.
5. "Popular narratives provide their readers with an ideological framework which shows them how to look at themselves and their society." Discuss with reference to two or more writers.
6. How did Zhang Ailing reconcile her desolate outlook with her claim to be a popular writer?
7. With reference to more than two writers, how would you differentiate May Fourth literature from Butterfly-Saturday fiction?
8. In what sense can Lai He be called paradigmatic? To what extent can Yang Kui's works be seen as an extension of such a paradigm?
9. What contributed to the modernist style of Wang Wenxing and Qideng Sheng?
10. Discuss the representation of women in the works of any two Taiwanese writers studied this year.

(TURN OVER)

SECTION C:**The Military in the Making of Modern China**

1. What was the Qing's strategy to defeat the Taiping Rebellion?
2. 'When we look more carefully at the total picture of the self-strengthening period, the view that Qing China was irrevocably weak and backward, in contrast to a powerful Japan and a rapidly industrializing Japan, is a relic of the impact of the 1894-5 Sino-Japanese war on international and domestic opinion'. Discuss.
3. Discuss the political and cultural repercussions of China's defeat by Japan in 1895.
4. What were Yuan Shikai's sources of power?
5. Discuss the utility of the term 'warlord' for historical analysis.
6. Discuss to what extent one can speak of a 'Chinese way' in warfare.
7. What were the main features of Maoist People's War?
8. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the military strategies of the Nationalists and the Japanese during the first phase of the War of Resistance, i.e. between the Marco Polo Bridge Incident and the Japanese capture of Wuhan.
9. What were the connections between the War of Resistance and WWII generally?
10. What were the political, cultural, and social legacies of the War of Resistance?

END OF PAPER