

ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS Part I

Japanese Studies

Thursday 4 June 2009 09.00 – 12.00

J.7 MODERN JAPAN, 1

*Candidates should answer **THREE** questions, at least **one** from each section.
All questions carry **equal** weight.*

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

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

*20 Page Answer Book x 1
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

- 1 Describe and evaluate the reforms of the Japanese school system and curricula since the 1980s.
- 2 Discuss the *socialisation* functions, mechanisms and measures of the Japanese school system.
- 3 Discuss Japanese laws and ordinances to encourage gender equality at the work place and their impact on the work situation and career opportunities for women.
- 4 Summarize two of the classical studies on Japanese society both in terms of methodology and content. Discuss how these studies help us today to understand aspects of Japanese society.
- 5 What can we learn about Japanese society from studying leisure activities AND/OR popular culture? Base your discussion on concrete examples.
- 6 Discuss the diversification of model career pathways for men and explain how masculinities and models of identification for men have changed since the early 1990s.

SECTION B

- 7 Why do people marry? Discuss the meaning and importance of marriage for individuals and society in Japan.
- 8 The prevalence of abortion among Japanese women combined with the late legalisation of oral contraceptives (in 1999) has perplexed many observers. Discuss political, cultural and social reasons for this situation and explain why the pill is still not very popular in Japan.
- 9 Statistics show increasing levels of juvenile deviance and delinquency. Explain the background of this increase, the differences between deviance and delinquency, and how various actors in Japanese society deal with the problems.
- 10 What is *hikikomori*? Discuss and evaluate policies to re-integrate into society those who are affected by it.

END OF PAPER