



AET1 & AEP2

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IB and Preliminary
Examination for Part II

Wednesday 01 June 2016 09.00 to 12.00

Paper J9

Japanese society

Answer **three** questions, including at least **one** from **each** section. All questions carry **equal** marks.

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.

Section A

- (1) About one million Japanese, mostly men, are said to be *hikikomori*. Analyse this phenomenon by making use of concepts and theories from classical studies on Japanese society and show how they are or are not useful to help us understand it.
- (2) Explain, using specific Japanese examples, how gift-giving is used in social relationships.
- (3) What influence does or can school education have on the formation of ethnic identity? Discuss specific examples of ethnic minorities in Japan.

Section B:

- (4) How have notions of motherhood changed since the Edo period? Elaborate, in particular, what a 'good mother' is in Japan today and how public institutions help to 'produce' good mothers.
- (5) Discuss how men negotiate their sense of masculinity in jobs outside the corporate world.
- (6) Describe and evaluate where and how socialisation takes place within the Japanese education system.
- (7) How does the study of time help us understand Japanese society?
- (8) Describe the postwar history of birth control in Japan and explain why there are substantial differences compared to European countries.
- (9) Discuss the goals of 'womenomics' and evaluate the relationship between 'womenomics' and Japanese family policy.
- (10) Explain notions of cleanliness and dirt in Japan. How do these notions shape people's behaviour? Please support your arguments with at least three examples.

END OF PAPER