



**ST ANDREW'S JUNIOR COLLEGE**  
**Preliminary Exams**  
**General Certificate of Education Advanced Level**  
**Higher 1**

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**China Studies in English**

**8817/01**

**3 September 2014**

**3 hours**

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your name and class on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.  
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.  
Do not use paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer all questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.  
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.



This document consists of 4 printed pages.  
**[Turn Over]**

**Section A****Case Study****Cross-strait relations****1 Read the following sources and then answer the questions which follow.****Source A**

The leaders of China and Taiwan have both taken risks over the past five years to stabilize the cross-strait relationship, enabling the two sides to exit from a vicious cycle of reaction to perceived threats. Most progress has been in the economic and cultural spheres, with political issues left aside for the moment. The United States is reaping the gains of reduced cross-strait tensions by being able to focus on other foreign policy priorities.

Taiwan has become economically dependent on China and will be driven further into its economic orbit as its commercial ties with the mainland grow deeper. At the same time, its democracy has become stronger, with presidential elections in 2008 and 2012 reflecting the genuine choice of the population and demonstrating the power of Taiwan's citizens to constrain presidential power. Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou pulled back from potential peace negotiations when Taiwanese public opinion soundly rejected the idea. Taiwanese society remains, moreover, very divided with respect to China.

*Adapted from an article, "The China-Taiwan cross-strait relationship: Stable, but fragile", published by UCLA Center for Chinese Studies, May 2013.*

*The UCLA Center for Chinese Studies aims to become the strongest institution for China scholarship in the Western hemisphere and to serve as an independent forum for dialogue on China's past, present, and future.*

**Source B**

Overall, the Defense Secretary has told Congress in required annual reports (latest in August 2011) on People's Republic of China's (PRC) military power that the balance of forces across the Taiwan Strait has continued to shift to the PRC's favor. Moreover, in spite of the closer cross-strait engagement after the Koumintang's Ma became President in Taipei in May 2008, the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) build-up opposite Taiwan has continued, and "the deployment of advanced capabilities opposite the island have not eased." Also, the Secretary's report on the PRC's military power had told Congress in March 2009 that it was no longer the case that Taiwan's Air Force enjoyed dominance of the airspace over the strait. In assessing the shifting security situation, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs Wallace Gregson stressed in September 2009 that Taiwan's military would never again have quantitative advantages over the PLA.

Despite a lack of consensus in Taiwan, its closer engagement with the PRC under KMT President Ma since May 2008 raised an issue among some observers of whether the United States should review U.S. policy. The dynamics of the closer cross-strait interactions have positive and negative implications for U.S. interests and influence.

*Taken from a Congressional Research Service paper prepared for members and Committees of Congress, September 2011.*

### Source C

China's Foreign Ministry criticized the Obama administration for telling U.S. Congress on Wednesday it plans a US\$5.3 billion upgrade of Taiwan's F-16 fighter fleet and warned the move would damage China-U.S. military and security links. Military ties between the two major Pacific-rim countries are to be negatively affected, analysts say. China put high-level military links between its Peoples' Liberation Army and the Pentagon in a freezer after the Obama administration sold a package of advanced weapon systems to Taiwan in early 2010.

"The Chinese military expresses its utmost indignation and strong condemnation of this action that gravely interferes in China's domestic affairs and damages China's sovereignty and national security interests. The weapons sales would create serious obstacles to the development of ordinary exchanges between our two militaries", according to Ministry of Defense spokesman Geng Yansheng.

A majority of Chinese online readers commented on chat-rooms that Beijing should be firm in expressing the Chinese people's strong opposition to U.S. weapons sales to China's Taiwan island. Some suggested Beijing cut its purchase of U.S. government debts.

*Taken an article published People's Daily Online, September 2011.*

### Source D

General Chen Bingde, Chief of the General Staff of PLA, indicated any U.S. weapon sales to Taiwan would inevitably damage U.S.-China relations in general and military-to-military relations in particular. At the same time, however, General Chen appeared to suggest the disruption might be limited if the package did not include the items of greatest concern to Beijing—new F-16C/D fighters. "As to how bad the impact will be, it would depend on the nature of the weapons sold to Taiwan," Chen said.

Prior to the U.S. announcement of its decision to supply arms to Taiwan, a pseudonymous opinion piece in the People's Daily declared the weapon sales process "a political farce". Further, the article warned that "any weapons deal with Taiwan will be rude interference in China's internal affairs, will hurt the feelings of the Chinese nation and cause severe damage to China-U.S. relations". Shortly after the announcement, Beijing voiced its "strong indignation and resolute opposition". China's official news agency reported Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Zhijun summoned U.S. Ambassador to China, Gary Locke, to underscore China's displeasure.

*From China Brief Volume 11:Issue 19 by the Jamestown Foundation, October 2011.*

*The Jamestown Foundation's mission is to inform and educate policy makers and the broader community about events and trends in those societies which are strategically or tactically important to the U.S.*

### Section A

Answer **all** the following questions.

- 1(a) According to Sources A, what makes cross-strait relations a challenge to the People's Republic of China? [6]
- (b) With reference to Sources C, D and own knowledge, analyze the actions of the Chinese government in response to U.S weapon sales to Taiwan. [9]
- (c) Assume you are an independent adviser to the Chinese government. Using information from Sources A to D, and your knowledge, evaluate the development of cross-strait relations since 2008. What will you recommend to achieve the aims of reunification? Give reasons to support your answer. [15]

### Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section.

**EITHER**

- 2 How far has pluralism shaped China's identity as a society? Explain your answer. [25]

**OR**

- 3 To what extent has moral values and ethics been on a decline in China? [25]

**EITHER**

- 4 Assess the implications of China's environmental degradation and resource management. [25]

**OR**

- 5 "Bilateralism outweighs multilateralism in shaping China's foreign policy". Discuss. [25]