

80

3 hours

NAME: _____

CLASS: _____

**2015 Temasek Junior College
China Studies in English
Higher 1
8817/1**

JC2 Preliminary Examinations

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer the compulsory question from Section A

Answer one question from Section B

Answer one question from Section C

Begin the answer to each new question on a fresh sheet of paper.

Write your answers on TJC writing paper. At the end of the examination, fasten your answer script securely together with your cover sheet

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question.

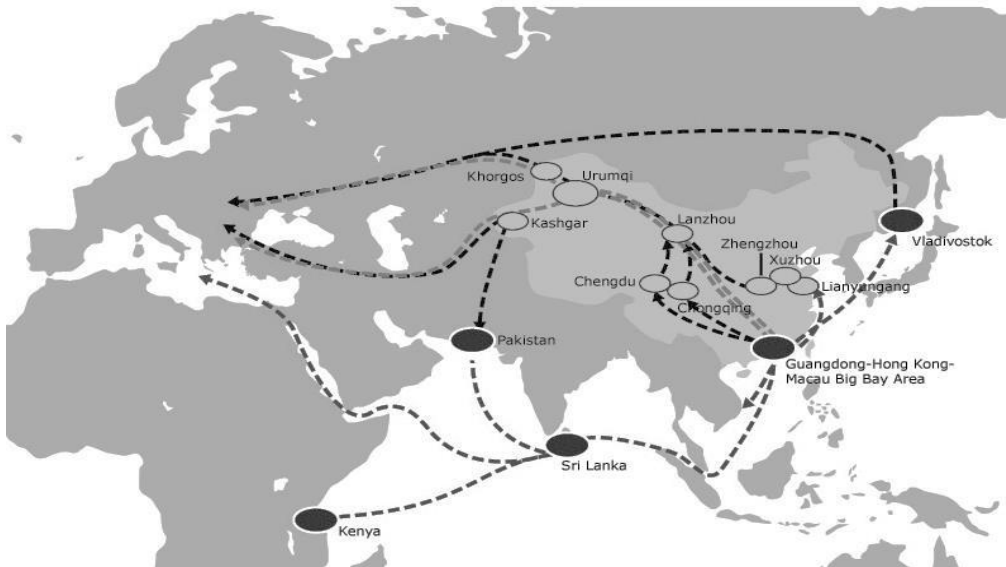
Section A

China as a Global Power

Case Study

1. Read the following sources and then answer all the questions which follow.

Source A



- *Map of China's 'One Belt, One Road' vision, 2015*

Source B

Last August, U.S. President Barack Obama commented that China had been a "free rider" in international security affairs for 30 years. This is clearly Cold War mentality, and a judgement made based on an outdated school of geopolitics. A more reasonable perspective is that the world's second largest economy is trying to play its part in the international community. It has not only taken on the responsibility in economic issues such as international trade and investment but also contributed new ideas and strategies to global governance.

At the Fifth BRICS Leaders Meeting held in Durban, South Africa, in 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping promised his counterparts that China will always actively take part in, and work constructively toward global governance reform: China wants to make due contributions to the establishment of a more fair and equitable international order.

China is trying to be a constructive player. Its actions reflect this ideology. The country promotes the concept of "community of common destiny" and accommodates the interest of other countries while protecting its own. It exercises a foreign policy of peaceful coexistence, supports a free, open and equal global trade system, opposes hegemony in security affairs and respects cultural diversity.

- *From Xinhua News Agency, July 2015*

Source C

On October 24th, representatives from 21 Asian nations signed an agreement to establish the Asian Infrastructural Bank, which, as its name suggests, will lend money to build roads, mobile phone towers and other forms of infrastructure in poorer parts of Asia. More money for critical projects might seem unambiguously good, but the AIIB has stoked controversy because Asia already has a multilateral lender, the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Why is China creating a new development bank for Asia?

China's official answer is that Asia has a massive infrastructure funding gap. Existing institutions cannot hope to fill it. Moreover, while ADB and World Bank loans support everything from environmental protection to gender equality, the AIIB will concentrate its firepower on infrastructure. Officially at least, ADB and World Bank officials have extended a cautious welcome to the new China-led bank, saying they see room for collaboration.

Behind the scenes, though, the Chinese initiative has set off a heated diplomatic battle. China will use the new bank to expand its influence at the expense of America and Japan, Asia's established powers. China's decision to fund a new multilateral bank rather than give more to existing ones reflects its exasperation with the glacial pace of global economic governance reform. The same motivation lies behind the New Development Bank established by the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa). Although China is the biggest economy in Asia, the ADB is dominated by Japan; Japan's voting share is more than twice China's and the bank's president has always been Japanese. Reforms to give China a little more say at the International Monetary Fund have been delayed for years, and even if they go through America will still retain far more power. China is, understandably, impatient for change. It is therefore taking matters into its own hands.

- *The Economist, a UK-based magazine, November 2014.*

Source D

More than 100 Chinese naval ships and dozens of aircraft fired live ammunition over the contested South China Sea this week in military manoeuvres that are likely to raise the political temperature in the region. The demonstration of firepower, broadcast on national television, appeared calculated to reassert Beijing's claim to hegemony in the area, where a number of neighbouring countries have also staked claims. The US has pledged to keep the sea lanes in the region open, which has angered China.

China has been reclaiming land and built permanently habitable islands — some with military style facilities. China insists the facilities it is building on the islands are for peaceful purposes, but western analysts say there is clear evidence the Chinese plan to use them as military bases. US officials said that a 3km airstrip being built on Fiery Cross Reef could eventually base fighter jets.

In addition to China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Brunei, and Malaysia all claim islands in the Sea, although China's claim to virtually the entire body of water — a claim referred to by Beijing as the "nine dash line" — dwarfs other claimants. Such behaviour by Beijing has heightened worries for China's neighbours in the region. India, for example, fearing encirclement by an increasingly powerful China on land and at sea, even in its home waters in the Indian Ocean, has recently sought to strengthen ties with its Asian neighbours and partners — including Japan and Australia — to counter the regional influence and military reach of China.

- *The Financial Times, an US-based newspaper, July 2015*

Section A

Answer ALL the following questions.

- 1a) With reference to Source A, explain the significance of 'One Belt, One Road' vision for China as a power. [6]
- b) With reference to Sources B, C and D, assess the impact of the rise of China on the international community. [9]
- c) You are foreign policy expert. With reference to the sources and your own knowledge, identify **TWO** most significant challenges for China to establish its status as a global power, and assess the opportunities to overcome them. [15]

Section B: Answer ONE question from this section

- 2. 'The sense of national identity amongst the people in China is strong.' Discuss. [25]

OR

- 3. How valid is the claim that culture in China today is shaped more by Chinese traditions than modernity? [25]

Section C: Answer ONE question from this section

- 4. To what extent would you agree that ideology remain relevant in the governance of China today? [25]

OR

- 5. 'The key developmental objective for the Chinese government is economic growth'. Discuss. [25]