

ANGLO-CHINESE JUNIOR COLLEGE
Preliminary Examinations
JC2

CHINA STUDIES IN ENGLISH H1

Paper 1

8817/01

24 August 2015

3 hours

Additional Materials: Writing Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your class, index number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer question 1.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

Answer **either** question 2 **or** question 3 **and either** question 4 **or** question 5.

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

Section A

Case Study

China's Peaceful Rise?

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

Source A

The reasons many fear China today are very similar. China, too, uses a competing economic model – “state capitalism” – that challenges the economic ideology of the West. In many ways, China also behaves in a mercantilist fashion, which gives the impression it cares little about anyone else. It keeps its currency controlled so its exports can out-compete those from other countries, and it grabs natural resources for itself wherever and whenever it can. Often state-controlled companies are doing the grabbing, making China seem like a threatening monolithic juggernaut. Worst of all, the political ideology behind China's economic ascent completely counters Western ideals about democracy and human rights. China is not just competing with the U.S. in world markets, but offering up an entirely different economic and political system, one that at times seems better at creating growth and jobs, even as it restricts much-cherished civil liberties. China is succeeding based on ideas that Americans despise.

The concerns many in the world have with China go well beyond even that. No one ever expected Japan to become a military threat to the West, or even a contender for diplomatic influence around the world. Japan wanted to be No.1, but only when it came to its role in the world economy. Aside from that Japan was a part of the global establishment – a member of the G7 and a clear U.S. military ally. China is none of those things. More and more, China is using its economic clout to offer an alternative to the U.S.-led political and economic system. Beijing routinely complains about the primacy of the dollar and wants its own currency to play a greater international role. Chinese diplomats have tried to extend their country's political pull across Africa and Latin America while supporting countries clearly hostile to U.S. interests (such as North Korea.) And Beijing is becoming a bigger military power as well, something that makes its neighbors, many of which have a history of conflict with China (South Korea, Vietnam, Japan, Taiwan) extremely nervous. Every extra 10% to China's GDP translates into more money the government can spend on its navy and armed forces.

*From an article entitled, Why do we fear a rising China?,
published in 'Time Magazine', June 2011*

Source B

Indeed, we already have evidence that China cannot successfully employ Deng Xiaoping's prescribed foreign policy over the long run. Before 2009, Beijing did a good job of keeping a low profile and not generating fear either among its neighbors or in the United States. Since then, however, China has been involved in a number of contentious territorial disputes and is increasingly seen as a serious threat by other countries in Asia.

This deterioration in China's relations with other countries is due in part to the fact that, no matter what Beijing does to signal good intentions, they cannot be sure what its real intentions are now, let alone in the future. Indeed, we cannot know who will be in charge of Chinese foreign policy in the years ahead, much less what their intentions will be toward other countries in the region or the United States. On top of that, China has serious territorial disputes with a number of its neighbors. Therefore, China's neighbors already focus mainly

on Beijing's capabilities, which means they look at its rapidly growing economy and increasingly formidable military forces. Not surprisingly, many other countries in Asia will become deeply worried because they know they are probably going to end up living next door to a superpower that might one day have malign intentions toward them.

*Excerpted from The Tragedy of Great Power Politics
by John J. Mearsheimer, 2014*

Source C

It seems that a new Cold War between China and the United States is looming in the Pacific region. However, the assertion of a Chinese version of the Monroe Doctrine is mistaken.

First, China does not have the capabilities to dominate Asia. China's military spending is still less than one-third of the US'. Although the World Bank predicted that China's gross domestic product in purchasing power parity will surpass that of the United States by the end of this year, the Chinese government has denied the validity of this forecast. On soft power, despite some praise of the "Chinese model", China remains far behind in making its cultural and political values welcome around the world. In fact, China still has a long way to go to catch up with the United States in all dimensions of power.

Even if China could match American power, it still could not lead or dominate Asia given the impact of globalisation and economic interdependence. No nation can independently address many non-traditional security threats and challenges, such as terrorism and drug trafficking. Like the US, it will have to collaborate with other nations and institutions.

Second, China has never intended to dominate the region. Chinese President Xi Jinping promoted a "China Dream" for national rejuvenation, not an "Asian Dream". The reference point for Mr Xi and other Chinese leaders is the "hundred years of humiliation" since the Opium War and not the "tributary system" of the Middle Kingdom. No Chinese leader wants to rebuild the Sino-centric order because China has been socialised into the international community, respecting state sovereignty and the principle of non-interference in internal affairs.

*From an article entitled, Worry for Asia is not a Chinese Monroe Doctrine,
published in The Straits Times, July 2014*

Source D

Clan-focused Confucianism and the fear bred by communism have persuaded the Chinese to mind their own business: sweep the snow from in front of your own house, goes the old saying, don't worry about the frost on your neighbour's roof. If it adopts similar attitudes to the world at large, that may be because China faces problems on a global scale within its own borders: it has more poor people than any other country save India. When 160 million of your own citizens are living on less than \$1.25 a day, and many people are beginning to complain more openly about your nation's domestic problems, the development needs of Africans can seem less pressing.

Accordingly, there is a tension in Chinese foreign policy. The country wants to have as little involvement abroad as it can get away with, except for engagements that enhance its image as a great power. It will act abroad when its own interests are at stake, but not for the greater or general good. Its navy has started to take part in anti-piracy operations off the Horn of Africa and in UN peacekeeping in Africa. In 2011 it sent a ship to co-ordinate the evacuation of 36,000 Chinese workers from Libya. More such actions may follow as its companies get more deeply involved in the world, but only if they are seen as either low-cost or absolutely

necessary. Acute awareness of its domestic weaknesses acts as a restraint, as does the damage China sees done by the militarisation of America's foreign policy in recent years.

*From an article entitled, What China Wants,
published in 'The Economist', August 2014*

Section A

Answer **all** the following questions.

- 1 (a) With reference to Source A, explain the concerns which other countries have of a rising China. [6]
- (b) Using information from Sources B, C, D and your knowledge, how far do you agree that these concerns are valid? [9]
- (c) As a political analyst, you are writing a report about the future of China's international development. Drawing on information in the sources and your knowledge, discuss **two** significant challenges which China faces in its rise as a global power and evaluate the opportunities of China overcoming them. [15]

Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section.

EITHER

- 2 To what extent is the social and economic diversity of China the greatest obstacle to the creation of a strong Chinese national identity? [25]

OR

- 3 Assess the role of religious and philosophical thought in the Chinese society today. [25]

AND EITHER

- 4 'Ideology no longer matters in Chinese politics today.' Discuss this view. [25]

OR

- 5 How far does the Open Door Policy account for China's economic growth? [25]