



China Studies in English

9733/02

Paper 2 Essay Questions

16 September 2016

2 hours 15 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write in dark blue or black ink.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

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

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

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 2 printed pages.

Section A

You **must** answer this question.

1. “Modernisation influences how the Chinese identify with themselves more than tradition.” How far do you agree with this statement? [25m]

Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section.

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

EITHER

2. “China’s society is far from unified.” Assess the validity of the statement. [25m]

OR

3. “Regional disparities are the biggest threat to China’s continued development.” Assess this view. [25m]

AND EITHER

4. To what extent is China’s relationship with the USA most important for her continued rise? [25m]

OR

5. “Ideology plays an important role in the governance of China.” How far do you agree with this statement? [25m]

Suggested Possible Approaches

1. “Modernisation influences how the Chinese identify with themselves more than tradition.” How far do you agree with this statement? [25m]

Focus of Question: Factors affecting China’s identity.

Possible Approach:

- Consider how modernisation and tradition influences Chinese identity.

Modernisation:

- Modernisation has awakened the sleeping dragon, leading to many to demand the return of China to its historical global position.
- Furthermore, modernisation has introduced various influences that has affected the way the Chinese identify themselves (e.g. Modernisation of Chinese culture)

Tradition:

- Tradition (Confucianism, Chinese religion) has continued to influence the way the Chinese identify themselves.
- Seen in both the material and non-material aspects of Chinese culture.
- Evaluate which of the factors influences Chinese identity more.
 - One approach is to argue for the syncretism of traditional culture with that of modernity, neither influences one over the other but does so hand in hand.

2. “China’s society is far from unified.” Assess the validity of the statement [25m]

Focus of the Question: Chinese society and the extent it is united/divided.

Possible Approach:

- Define what makes up Chinese society
 - Material and non-material aspects of Chinese society.
 - People, language, practices.
- Evaluate the role each part plays in uniting society.
 - Han vs ethnic minorities
 - Mandarin vs dialects
 - Chinese vs local traditions
- Evaluate the role that Confucianism/philosophy/religion plays in unifying society.

3. "Regional disparities are the biggest threat to China's continued development." Assess this view. [25m]

Focus of the Question: Regional disparities and China's development

Possible Approach:

- Identify the different factors that threaten China's continued development.
 - Regional disparities
 - Rural-urban migration
 - Environmental management

Evaluation: Students can evaluate the above based on China's current context. For e.g. At this stage of China's development environmental management is paramount for China to continue growing for fear it is on the verge of spiralling out of control.

Another possible argument is the importance of dealing with regional disparities so that China can transit into the next stage of economic development.

Continued development needs to be taken as a whole and not simply taken to be economic development.

4. To what extent is China's relationship with the USA most important for her continued rise? [25m]

Focus of the Question: The importance of China's foreign relations as factors in her continued rise.

Possible Approach: Contrast China-US relations vs China-Japanese vs China-SEA relations in how they contribute to China's economic and security areas.

Evaluation: China-US relations are paramount because other relations mentioned hinges in no small part on USA.

5. "Ideology plays an important role in the governance of China." How far do you agree with this statement? [25m]

Focus of Question: The role of ideology in contributing to good governance in China.

Possible Approach:

- Consider the impact of the different ideological slogans in the governance of China.
 - o Mao Zedong Thought (Consolidation)
 - o Deng Xiaoping Theory (Reform and opening up)
 - o The Three Represents (Further economic development)
 - o Scientific Development and Harmonious Society (Dealing with the performance dilemma)
 - o Chinese Dream (The next stage)
- Consider the role these slogans play in contributing towards the legitimacy of the government.

Despite the apparent loss of importance that ideology plays, one must recognise that the Chinese government is only able to act when ideology permits it to. Without ideology therefore, the CCP is unable to act and shift it's policies accordingly.

- Evaluation: In spite of the appearance of being irrelevant, ideology is as important in the governance of China because it allows for the CCP to project and put in place policies that can contribute to good governance in China.