

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CT Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Index no: \_\_\_\_\_



## PIONEER JUNIOR COLLEGE

### JC 2 Preliminary Examination 2017

H1 8628/01

### CHINA STUDIES IN ENGLISH

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 (Wednesday)

Time: 1400 - 1700hr

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

Candidates will answer **THREE** questions.

##### Section A

**Question 1** is **compulsory** for all candidates.

##### Section B

Candidate can **choose** to answer **either Question 2 or 3, AND either Question 4 or 5**

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES:

Write your answers on the separate answer paper provided.

If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.

You are reminded of the need for grammatically correct English and clear presentation in your answers.

Start each question on a fresh page.

Indicate the question number in your answer scripts.

#### *For official use*

Question	Full marks	Marks obtained
1	30	
2 OR 3	25	
4 OR 5	25	
	Total marks:	

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## Section A

### Case Study

#### How stable is China's relationship with Japan?

##### 1. Read the following sources and answer all the questions that follow.

#### Source A

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe affirmed the importance of building “stable” relations. But in remarks that reflected deep-rooted tensions, Abe called on Beijing to do more to ease the situation in the East China Sea, while Xi said Japan should “clear away distractions” affecting Sino-Japanese ties. The half-hour meeting between the two leaders came at a time of improving relations, although the two nations remain divided over historical issues and territorial disputes in the East China Sea.

Two US B-1B bombers trained with Japanese fighters over the East China Sea on Friday, where China and Japan have contesting claims. Beijing has also expressed dismay at Japan forging closer ties with Southeast Asian nations involved in its disputes over the South China Sea.

In Hamburg on Saturday, Xi told Abe that Japan should be cautious in its handling of their disputes and issues to do with Taiwan, which Beijing considers a breakaway province. “On important issues relating to the political foundation of China and Japan, China will not make any concession nor take any step back,” Xi was quoted by Xinhua as saying. “Only that the Sino-Japanese relations will not deviate from a normal track.”

*An excerpt from an article published on South China Morning Post, dated 8<sup>th</sup> July 2017.*

#### Source B

In the past when Japan-China relations have deteriorated, China has suspended communications in all areas. Japan has called for “separate politics and economics” (*seikei bunri*) with China to prevent relations from worsening, while hinting at ways the two might improve relations. A large majority of Japanese want a peaceful settlement of the problems and a stable relationship with China, even if they don't have a favorable impression of China at present, and basically support the idea of *seikei bunri*. Still, Japan sometimes struggles with the policy as new problems emerge.

Japan-China relations have been through rocky patches in the past, whether because of historical issues or economic friction, but the current concerns in

Japan are unique. Since the late 2000s, China has come to pose a physical threat to Japan. Another challenge of *seikei bunri* for Japan is that China converts its economic power to diplomatic influence, tries to gain support for its policies from other countries, and then seeks to foment division. These emerging challenges have prompted the current debate in Japan about how best to respond to China.

The Abe administration, which enjoys a stable majority in the Diet, will continue its policy of bolstering Japan's defense capabilities and stepping up security cooperation with other countries. Yet Japan will also seek cooperation with China where possible. After all, in this era of globalization, two countries as interdependent as Japan and China are cannot simply ignore one other – they must manage relations in their own and regional interests.

*“China-Japan Relations at a Crossroad” by Hiroko Maeda, published in The Diplomat, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016.*

### **Source C**

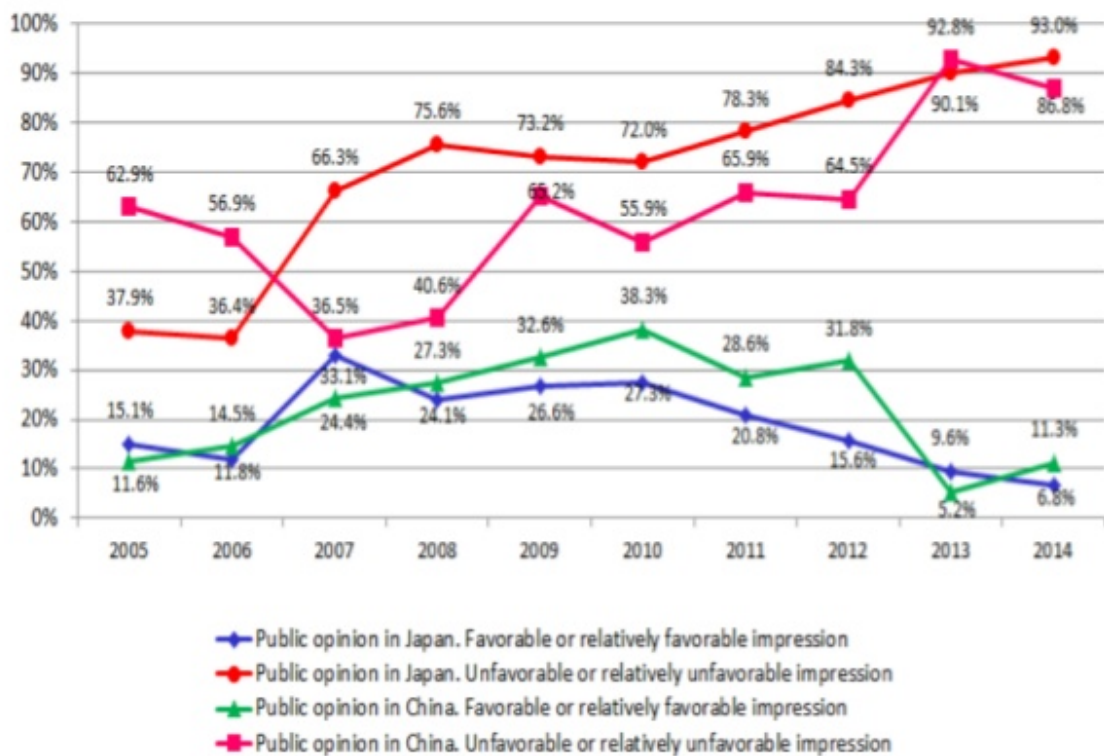
Security remains a top Chinese priority. Japan recently proposed its largest defense budget yet, about \$42 billion. Tokyo's outlays, while only a fraction of China's budget, have spawned a sizable and sophisticated military. Japan's recently revised military guidelines also envision a more active international role. China loudly denounces every such change, but the more the PRC plays the hate card, the more Japan likely will expand its military. The Abe government's most recent defense white paper noted the growth in Chinese military outlays and capabilities, and warned that “China's actions include dangerous acts that may invite unintended consequences, raising concerns over China's future direction.” In July, Japanese Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano predicted: “this trend will continue into the future where China will go beyond the island chain in the Pacific. So if anything, I believe the situation would worsen.”

The Japan-U.S. alliance greatly magnifies Japanese military strength. Moreover, the American military presence creates additional challenges for the PRC. While the U.S. and Japan have no aggressive designs on China, Beijing understandably looks uneasily at the alliance of its old enemy with the globe's dominant power.

*An excerpt from an article published on Forbes online, dated 4<sup>th</sup> September 2015.*

Source D

## Japanese and Chinese Impressions of One Another



Data Source: The 10th Japan-China Public Opinion Poll by Genron NPO

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**Answer all the following questions.**

- According to Source A, explain the factors responsible for shaping Sino-Japanese ties. [6]
- With reference to the sources, discuss the view that China's relationship with Japan is inherently unstable. [9]
- Using the sources and your own knowledge, give recommendations to improve current state of Sino-Japanese relations. Assess the possibilities of an improving bilateral relationship as a result of your recommendations. [15]

[Total: 30]

### **Section B**

Answer **two** questions from this section.

#### **EITHER**

- 2) To what extent has urbanisation brought about a significant transformation of the Chinese society? [25]

#### **OR**

- 3) Assess the view that the CCP has been more successful in managing threats posed by NGOs than threats posed by the internet. [25]

#### **AND EITHER**

- 4) How far do you agree that security issues posed the greatest challenge to the stability of Sino-US relations? [25]

#### **OR**

- 5) To what extent has China's growing involvement in international institutions aided its rise as a global power? [25]

[Total: 50]

**End of Paper**

