

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 4

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of two parts: Part A, Group Interaction; and Part B, Individual Response. Part B will immediately follow Part A. DO NOT write anything on this page.

PART A Group Interaction

You will be given 10 minutes to prepare. The time allowed for the group interaction is 8 minutes (or 6 minutes for a group of 3 candidates). You may make notes on the notecard provided and refer to your notes during the discussion.

This article appeared on a website:

Friendship Beyond Time

Friendship is an important part of life, and it can often develop in unexpected situations. A recent example that has attracted attention in Hong Kong is the movie version of *A Step into the Past*, which was originally a popular television drama in the early 2000s and has recently returned in film form.

The story follows the main character, played by Louis Koo, who travels back in time from modern Hong Kong to the ancient Qin Dynasty. During his journey, he forms a strong friendship with the young king, later known as Qin Shi Huang. Although they come from very different backgrounds and historical periods, the two characters gradually develop mutual trust and respect.

Many viewers have said that the story highlights the importance of loyalty, understanding, and support in friendship. Even though the characters face political struggles and personal challenges, their friendship helps them overcome difficulties.

The story has also encouraged audiences to reflect on the meaning of friendship in real life. True friendship is not only about having fun together, but also about supporting each other in difficult times and accepting differences.

You and your classmates are organising a school talk about friendship among teenagers. You may want to talk about:

- the qualities that make someone a good friend
- how friendships can help people overcome difficulties
- how schools can encourage students to build healthy friendships
- anything else you think is important

PART B Individual Response

The examiner will ask you one or more questions based on Part A. You will have up to 1 minute to respond.

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EXAMINER

PART A Group Interaction

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PART B Individual Response

1. What qualities do you think are most important in a good friend?
2. Why are friendships important during teenage years?
3. Do you think friendships can last a lifetime?
4. How can misunderstandings affect friendships?
5. Do you think social media makes it easier or harder to maintain friendships?
6. What can people do to solve conflicts between friends?
7. Can people from very different backgrounds still become good friends?
8. In your opinion, how can people maintain strong friendships over time?