

**HKDSE 2024  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 1 PART A  
QUESTION-ANSWER BOOK**



Write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label in the space provided on this page.

Read Texts 1 and 2 and answer questions 1-23. (42 marks)

**Text 1**

1. Based on the information in paragraph 1, complete the sentence by selecting the best option from the choices below. (2 marks)

(i) \_\_\_\_\_ banyan trees were removed while several others (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ as a result of heavy rainfall.

- |     |                          |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (i) | A. Eight                 |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|     | B. One hundred           |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|     | C. Four-year-old         | A                     | B                     | C                     | D                     |
|     | D. Four hundred-year-old | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

- |      |                  |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (ii) | A. loosened      |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|      | B. fell down     |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|      | C. were crushed  | A                     | B                     | C                     | D                     |
|      | D. were cut down | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

2. According to paragraphs 1 and 2, why was the 'decision' (line 2) considered 'controversial' (line 2)?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. According to paragraph 5, how did the wall become a problem?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Who or what does 'them' (line 17) refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. According to Text 1, are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)? (3 marks)

**Statements**

- |   | T                     | F                     | NG                    |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (i) Two government departments had the same view towards the tree felling decision. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| (ii) The trees in Sai Ying Pun were taken down after experts were upset.            | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| (iii) No one was hurt by the fallen trees.  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

6. What is the text type of Text 1?

- |   |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| A. A news report                            |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| B. Health and safety advice                 |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| C. A profile of banyan trees in Hong Kong   | A                     | B                     | C                     | D                     |
| D. A leaflet promoting Hong Kong's heritage | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

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**Text 2**

7. With reference to paragraph 1, complete the sentence below.

Over 70 years ago, Lam installed a shrine, which has been \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

8. What does the phrase ‘these behemoths’ (line 4) refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What does Jim imply when he says ‘If Hong Kong was abandoned it would be taken over by banyans in a few hundred years’ (line 6)?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Find a word in paragraph 2 which can be replaced by each word or phrase given below. (2 marks)

(i) ‘seen everywhere’ \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) ‘significant’ \_\_\_\_\_

11. Below is a summary of paragraph 3. In five of the lines there is ONE mistake. If you find a mistake, underline it and replace the word with one that expresses the correct idea. Write the word in the Correction column. Both grammar and spelling must be correct. In one of the lines, there is no mistake; put a tick (✓) in the Correction column. One has been done for you as an example. (5 marks)

Summary	Correction	
Thin airborne branches seek food; making banyan trees easily identifiable.	(i)	
Over 1,100 banyans growing out of stone walls on Hong Kong Island	(ii)	
were recorded by Jim Chi-yung. Finding protection from another	(iii)	
tree or the soil enables it to produce a thin trunk. Since banyans	(iv)	
grow in few situations they are the most dominant form of greenery	(v)	
even in areas that have very little space or are very <u>flat</u> .		hilly (example)

12. Complete the notes about paragraph 4 by writing ONE word taken from the paragraph in each blank below. (4 marks)

Jim shows the writer trees growing out of a stone wall built according to a (i) \_\_\_\_\_ method.

This type of wall needs no (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ in the gaps between each stone. He explains that birds let

go of banyan (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ or they are carried by the wind and fall into these gaps. It is here that

very long roots (iv) \_\_\_\_\_.

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13. Complete the summary of paragraph 5 by selecting the best option from the choices below. (3 marks)

Jim is impressed by the way that the trees create a green (i) \_\_\_\_\_ that covers the road. He says that he once suggested creating a (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ street with restaurants for people to eat outside under the banyans. The government reacted in (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ way to the idea.

- (i) A. banyan  
B. umbrella  
C. backdrop  
D. destination

A B C D

- (ii) A. traffic-free  
B. driver-friendly  
C. pedestrian-free  
D. environmentally-friendly

A B C D

- (iii) A. a warm  
B. a negative  
C. a sarcastic  
D. an optimistic

A B C D

14. What does 'it' (line 22) refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

15. In paragraph 6, what is Jim's attitude towards people who concrete over roots: Positive, negative or neutral? Give one reason from Text 2 to support your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. What does 'an unnecessary overreaction' (line 27) refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

17. According to paragraph 7, why did local residents in Bonham Road attach balloons to the tree roots?

\_\_\_\_\_

18. According to paragraph 8, are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)? (3 marks)

Statements	T	F	NG
(i) Visitors to Lam Tsuen buy prepared wishes to put on the tree.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) Since 2005 there has been a decline in the number of worshippers at Lam Tsuen.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) Shrines are frequently built in the branches of trees.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19. Why did the 'lack of useful properties' (line 39) ensure the survival of banyans?

\_\_\_\_\_

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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20. Provide ONE example of how the behaviour of banyans can be seen as 'a symbol of love' (line 41).

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21. According to paragraph 11, give ONE example of how the government is protecting banyan trees.

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22. According to Text 2, what quality of banyan trees does the writer have in mind when he says 'There is a reason they are worshipped, after all' (line 52)?

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23. Use the information in Text 2 to match each of the following comments with a person/organisation mentioned in the text. Write the letter of the comment in the Answer column. One comment is NOT used. One has been done for you as an example. Use each letter ONCE only. (5 marks)

Person/organisation	Answer	Comments
Li Yu	<u>A (example)</u>	<del>A. Banyan trees represent love.</del>
Mr Lam	(i) _____	B. There are too many trees growing out of walls.
P. Y. L. Ng	(ii) _____	C. We needed to play it safe. We just had to be cautious.
Jim Chi-yung	(iii) _____	D. This tree has been part of my life for so long now.
Visitor to Lam Tsuen	(iv) _____	E. I don't mind if it's artificial as long as my wishes are heard.
The Highways Department	(v) _____	F. It's useless. The wood is not smooth enough to make anything out of.
		G. My nickname is accurate. I can tell you everything there is to know about banyans.

**END OF PART A**

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**HKDSE 2024  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 1 PART B1  
QUESTION-ANSWER BOOK**

**B1**  
EASY SECTION

Write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label in the space provided on this page.

Read Texts 3 and 4 and answer questions 24-42. (42 marks)

**Text 3**

24. Find ONE word in paragraph 1 which has a similar meaning to 'goods'.

\_\_\_\_\_

25. Where did Uncle Tang learn to make flour dolls?

\_\_\_\_\_

26. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in paragraphs 2-4?

- A. children's interests
- B. Uncle Tang's children
- C. where Uncle Tang works
- D. the age of Uncle Tang's craft

A    B    C    D  
        

27. Who or what does 'them' (line 18) refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

28. Find a phrase similar in meaning to 'wasteful attitude' in paragraph 6.

\_\_\_\_\_

29. What does the phrase 'without him Peel Street will never be the same' (lines 19-20) suggest?

- A. Peel Street would be safer.
- B. Peel Street would be widened.
- C. Peel Street would attract more tourists.
- D. Peel Street would have a different character.

A    B    C    D  
        

30. Why does Uncle Leung 'not really need to work' (line 27)?

\_\_\_\_\_

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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31. Read the statements below and match each with ONE of the hawkers in Text 3. Write the letter in the corresponding blank on the right. Use each letter ONCE only. ONE statement is NOT used. (3 marks)

Statements	Hawkers
A. He wants people to replace broken things.	
B. He wants people to have broken things fixed.	Uncle Tang (i) _____
C. Children these days don't want to buy what he sells.	Uncle Ho (ii) _____
D. He found out that earning a living was very difficult.	Uncle Leung (iii) _____

32. What is the text type of Text 3?

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| A. A profile              |   |
| B. A book review          | A    B    C    D  |
| C. An advertisement       | <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> |
| D. A career advice column |   |

**Text 4**

33. With reference to paragraph 1, complete the following sentence with a phrase.

Because the government in the 1970s was concerned about busy streets and public health and safety, it introduced \_\_\_\_\_.

34. According to paragraph 1, are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)? (4 marks)

Statements	T	F	NG
(i) In future, hawking in Hong Kong may disappear.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) The number of hawkers has increased.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) The government has a policy to purchase licences from hawkers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iv) Hawking is a tourist attraction in many cities of the world.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. Find a word in paragraphs 2 and 3 which has a similar meaning to each word given below. (3 marks)

- (i) existing (paragraph 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) attract (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) harsher (paragraph 3) \_\_\_\_\_

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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36. Complete the following sequence of events from paragraph 3 with ONE word taken from the paragraph. (6 marks)

**In the 1950s**

A lot of hawker stalls were in crowded, working-class (i) \_\_\_\_\_. The government (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ that many stall holders worked with no licence. Therefore, there was a need for regulations for (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.



**In the 1970s**

The government considered hawking a (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ activity. Hawking could be a threat to the safety of (v) \_\_\_\_\_.



**Today**

Shopkeepers may feel that competition from hawkers is (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ as hawkers pay no rent.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

37. Complete the summary of paragraph 4 below with ONE word taken from the paragraph. (3 marks)

Some hawkers do not take part in the day-to-day (i) \_\_\_\_\_ and often it is the assistant who does the actual work although the (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ states that the person who has the licence has to be at the stall. Assistants are unable to legally (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ a licence and so they illegally rent a stall from a licence holder.

38. According to paragraphs 5 and 6, are the following statements True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)? (3 marks)

Statements	T	F	NG
(i) The aim of buying back the licences was to make the streets less crowded.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) A hawker died in the fire on Fa Yuen Street.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) The government is not thinking about giving out any new licences.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Who does 'we' (line 36) refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

40. Below are comments made by the people in Text 4. Match each person with ONE comment that best represents each person mentioned in the text. Each letter can be used ONCE only. ONE comment is NOT used. One has been done for you as an example. (3 marks)

A. I understand that hawking is an important part of Hong Kong culture and there is no intention to destroy it.

B. Our number will continue to get smaller.

C. I'd like to get my own licence but I don't mind working this way as I can still make a living.

D. I think the government believed that hawking was a suitable welfare activity for the poor, even in the 1970s.

E. We do have legal hawker businesses but at the same time, we need to have good environmental hygiene.

An FEHD spokesperson		<u>E (example)</u>
Veteran hawker Lee Tai-wing	(i)	_____
Hawker 'assistant' Wong Tai-ming	(ii)	_____
An official of the Food and Health Bureau	(iii)	_____

41. Below are summary headings for each paragraph of Text 4. Match the most appropriate heading with each paragraph by writing the letters (A-G) in the Answer column. Each letter can be used ONCE only. One has been done for you as an example. (6 marks)

Paragraph Number	Answer	Subheadings
1	(i) _____	A. New sites?
2	<u>D (example)</u>	B. Buying back
3	(ii) _____	C. An illegal trade
4	(iii) _____	<del>D. A change of heart</del>
5	(iv) _____	E. More restrictions
6	(v) _____	F. Being hopeful
7	(vi) _____	G. Decreasing number of hawkers

42. Do you think hawking should be preserved in Hong Kong? With reference to Text 4, give ONE reason to support your view.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**END OF PART B1**

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**HKDSE 2024  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 1 PART B2  
QUESTION-ANSWER BOOK**

**B2**  
DIFFICULT SECTION

Write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label in the space provided on this page.  
Read Text 5 and answer questions 43-62. (42 marks)

**Text 5**

43. Using the information from paragraph 1, complete the table below. (4 marks)

Bad Science by Ben Goldacre	
Author's background	Doctor and science writer
Target audience	(i) _____
Summary	
Goldacre identifies problems with science and medicine: (ii) _____ _____	The desired outcome: (iv) _____ _____
problems with advertising and the media: (iii) _____ _____	_____

44. What does the phrase 'in a special "sciencey" way' (line 8) tell us about Goldacre's attitude towards the Brain Gym programme?  
\_\_\_\_\_

45. (i) What do 'these beliefs' (line 10) refer to? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

(ii) What has contributed to the spread of 'these beliefs' (line 10)? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

46. According to paragraph 4, why might the mainstream media and the general public be held responsible for the current situation? (2 marks)

(i) mainstream media: \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) the general public: \_\_\_\_\_

Answers written in the margin will not be marked.



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Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

47. In paragraph 5 what does the metaphor 'outnumbered and outgunned' (line 16) tell us about the situation with scientists and doctors?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

48. Complete the summary of paragraphs 6 and 7 using a word or phrase taken from the paragraphs for each gap. (6 marks)

It is said that the public is (i) \_\_\_\_\_ about their physical well-being. This is reflected in the fact that 50% of all science news items are to do with (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ and people are constantly exposed to (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.

Medicine that is driven by evidence is the (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ form of applied science as it has saved millions of lives. However, the problem is that there is a huge (v) \_\_\_\_\_ in society when it comes to understanding science-based medicine. The difficulty exists because it is likely that those who (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ at school probably did not convey to you such information.

49. What does 'the territory' (line 28) refer to? \_\_\_\_\_

50. Which phrase does Goldacre use in paragraph 11 to refer to 'alternative therapists'?

\_\_\_\_\_

51. Complete the table by finding an example from paragraphs 6-11 for each of the following. (5 marks)

	Example from the text
A. An important concept that is not sufficiently taught	(i) _____ _____
B. A positive outcome	(ii) _____ _____
C. An unreliable source of information	(iii) _____ _____
D. An example of pseudo-science	(iv) _____ _____
E. A fatal outcome	(v) _____ _____

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52. What makes the errors 'more dangerous' (line 40)?
- A. It is possible that some clients might die.
  - B. The public's understanding of evidence is eroded.
  - C. Alternative therapists brand themselves as nutritionists.
  - D. Alternative therapists claim to be men and women of science.
- A   B   C   D

53. Find an expression in paragraph 12 that can be replaced by 'deceive'.

\_\_\_\_\_

54. What has contributed to the popularity of 'commodifiable solutions' (line 47)?

\_\_\_\_\_

55. Below is a summary of paragraph 13. In five of the lines, there is ONE mistake. If you find a mistake, underline it and replace the word with one that expresses the correct idea in the Correction column. Both grammar and spelling must be correct. In one of the lines, there is no mistake; put a tick (✓) in the Correction column. One has been done for you as an example. (5 marks)

Summary		Correction
Ben Goldacre has in his sights <u>three</u> important groups;		two (example)
those who reject great power and authority and those in the	(i)	
mainstream media. He considers the former more prevalent	(ii)	
as their pointless mistakes have serious outcomes. He believes the	(iii)	
latter doggedly support meaningful stories about science	(iv)	
with such a fundamental misconception of the facts.	(v)	

56. Why does Goldacre find 'people in positions of great power' (line 54) most worrying?

\_\_\_\_\_

57. Provide an example of 'the tools to win – or at least understand – any argument' (line 59).

\_\_\_\_\_

58. Which of the following best summarises the idea in the sentence, 'You cannot reason people out of positions they didn't reason themselves into.' (line 58)?
- People cannot be persuaded to change their point of view...
- A. by intuition; they need reason and logic.
  - B. when their point of view is based on logic.
  - C. when their point of view is not based on logic.
  - D. by logic alone; they need emotional intelligence.
- A   B   C   D

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59. What is Goldacre referring to when he says ‘along the way’ (line 61)?

\_\_\_\_\_

60. What does Goldacre mean when he says ‘you’ll be wrong with a lot more style and flair’ (line 67)?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

61. Below are some quotes from a radio interview given by Goldacre. Match the quotes with the groups of people he is talking about. Each letter can be used ONCE only. ONE comment is not used. ONE has been done for you as an example. (5 marks)

A. This group are raking in the money hand over fist by duping us all.

B. This group struggle to be heard above all the ‘noise’ regarding science today.

C. They’re being drilled in such nonsense yet someone in authority allows this to happen.

D. It’s nuts because they exploit a nugget of truth to present themselves as experts.

E. How can they be getting things so wrong and yet be getting things so right?

F. They’re currently incapable of communicating the true picture to us.

G. This group needs to be steered away from political solutions.

Groups of people in the text		Letter
The food supplements industry		A (example)
British children	(i)	
The media	(ii)	
Some alternative therapists	(iii)	
Scientists and doctors	(iv)	
British universities	(v)	

62. Is Goldacre optimistic or pessimistic about the future regarding science and medicine? Use evidence from Text 5 to support your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

END OF PART B2

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.