

## PART B1

Read Text 3 and answer questions 32-41 on pages 1-2 of the Question-Answer Book for Part B1.

### Text 3

#### Witness Statement

- 1 I, Anna Rossi, of 3 Arthur Street, Yau Ma Tei, housewife, state:

On 1 December 2014 at about 3:30pm, I was about to get into my car in the car park next to the shops on Wood Road, Wan Chai.

I noticed that a silver car was driving down the aisle behind me.

- 5 I saw a green sports car reverse out of a car space and collide with the silver car. The silver car was moving at the time of the collision.

My car was parked opposite where the accident happened.

Both the drivers got out of their cars. Neither of them seemed to be hurt and I went over to them to see how they were.

- 10 The driver of the green car said "Did you see the accident?" I said words to the effect "I saw it". He then said "Can you give me your contact details, just in case I need a statement from you?" I replied "Yes". I then gave him my contact details.

It was a sunny day.

- 15 The speed limit in the car park was 20km per hour. The silver car was travelling at about 40km per hour.

I noticed damage to the back left side of the green sports car.

I believe that the contents of this statement are true and correct.

Signed: **A. Rossi**

Dated: 7 December 2014

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Read Text 4 and answer questions 42-55 on pages 2-4 of the Question-Answer Book for Part B1.

### Text 4

#### Will cars with no drivers catch on?

- 1 [1] Some day in the near future, cars will drive themselves. Traffic jams and deadly accidents will become a thing of the past. Driving to work will be less stressful, as riders can sit back with their coffee and let computers handle the trip.

- 5 [2] That's the dream of many, at least. And it's not totally unrealistic. Google is developing "autonomous vehicles" that are improving rapidly each year. A future of completely self-driving vehicles doesn't seem too far off.

[3] And yet, according to a new report by the Eno Center for Transportation, there are still many obstacles to overcome before self-driving cars take over our highways.

- 10 [4] "Self-driving cars have the potential to transform transport as we know it," explained report co-author Daniel Fagnant — and bring billions of dollars' worth of benefits. But getting to that point won't be easy.



### The benefits of self-driving cars

- 15 [5] It's easy to list the benefits of a world with self-driving vehicles. Safety is the biggest. Right now, more than 30,000 people die each year in the United States from automobile crashes. And roughly 40 percent of fatal accidents are caused by alcohol, distraction, drugs or fatigue. Letting robots take the wheel would save lives.
- [6] Or take congestion. Cars driven by robots could travel closer together at steadier speeds. They wouldn't bunch up in traffic jams caused by a ripple of brake lights. More cars could squeeze onto the road and move more quickly, and a lot of time and fuel would be saved.
- 20 [7] If just 10 percent of the vehicles on the road were self-driving cars, the authors estimate, the country could save more than \$37 billion a year — fewer deaths, less fuel, more free time. If we reached a point where 90 percent of the cars on the road were self-driving vehicles, the benefits would rise to around \$450 billion a year.
- 25 [8] Now, as Fagnant pointed out in a presentation, these are “ballpark, rough estimates...guesses, really.” So don't get too fixated on the numbers. They're meant to be illustrative, not definitive.
- [9] The authors also didn't try to quantify any of the *costs* of self-driving vehicles. What's the price tag on these gadgets? How does that compare to the benefits?
- 30 [10] And what about unforeseen consequences? Researchers can't predict how, exactly, self-driving cars might reshape society. Maybe the vehicles will induce even *more* travel and congestion will get worse. Or maybe they will lead to an increase in air pollution. It's impossible to know at this point. Still, the advantages are tantalizing.

### The problems of self-driving cars

- 35 [11] Even if the benefits are many, self-driving vehicles have a lot of hoops to leap through. First, the technology is still very pricey. By one estimate, the first wave of autonomous vehicles could cost over \$100,000 — five times the cost of the average new vehicle. Even that might be an underestimate: the 3-D sensors alone on Google's autonomous car cost about \$70,000.
- [12] Those costs would presumably come down over time, but no one knows how rapidly. And that's a big hurdle. One survey found that only 20 percent of Americans would “definitely” or “probably” buy a car with self-driving capabilities even if the price dropped to \$30,000.
- 40 [13] What's more, while the technology is rapidly improving, it's far from perfect. Google's self-driving cars have now traveled more than 435,000 miles in California, but the cars have yet to be fully tested in urban environments.
- [14] Most likely, self-driving technology will emerge gradually, piece by piece. But even intermediate features pose unique challenges.
- 45 [15] Early autonomous cars will likely require their human drivers to take the wheel during especially complicated situations. But as one car maker is discovering, it's difficult to get people to drift in and out of attention while driving — and the process of switching back and forth between robot and human could well make these cars less safe, at first.
- 50 [16] The Eno report also notes that there's still a ton of research yet to be done about the prospect of self-driving cars. “As long as crucial questions go unanswered,” the report concludes, “the nation will be hampered in its ability to successfully plan for and introduce [autonomous vehicles] into the transportation system.”

### END OF READING PASSAGES

Candidate Number

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**HKDSE 2015  
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 Text 3 and answer questions 32-41. (15 marks)

32. Who is the witness?

\_\_\_\_\_

33. Why are the following addresses important?

(2 marks)

i) Arthur Street, Yau Ma Tei \_\_\_\_\_

ii) Wood Road, Wan Chai \_\_\_\_\_

34. Find a word in lines 1-9 with the same meaning as "accident".

\_\_\_\_\_

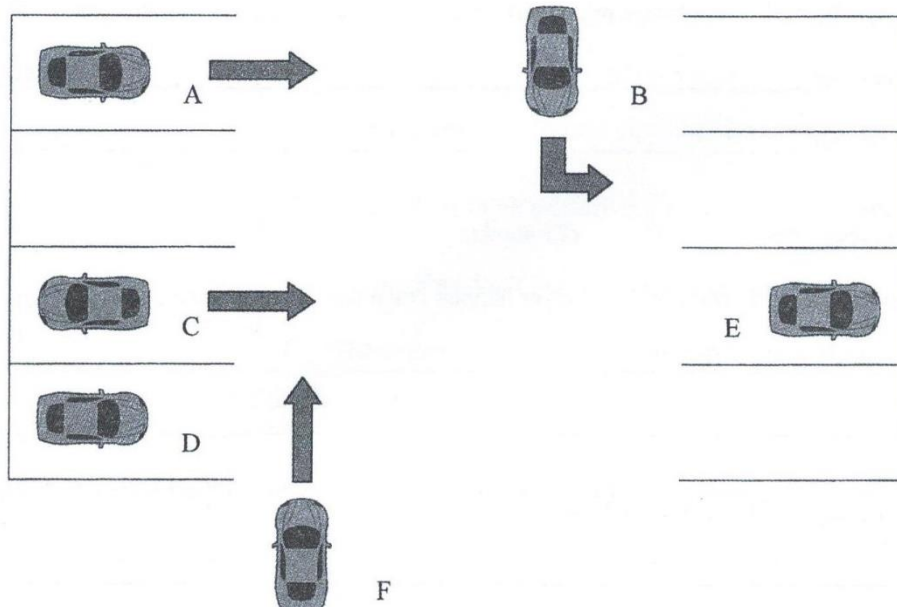
35. Look at the following diagram. Write the letter (A-F) that indicates the position of:

(3 marks)

i) the silver car \_\_\_\_\_

ii) the green car \_\_\_\_\_

iii) Anna's car \_\_\_\_\_



Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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36. Who was injured in the accident? \_\_\_\_\_

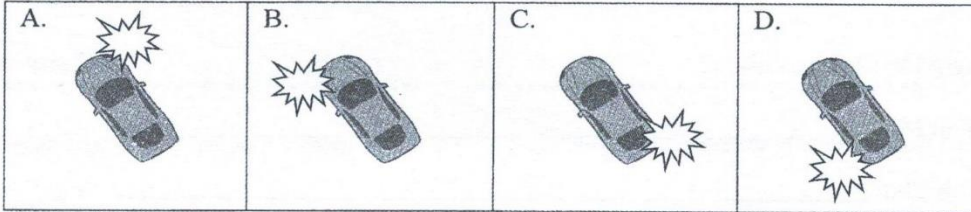
37. Why did the driver ask Anna for her contact details?

\_\_\_\_\_

38. Where was the green car damaged?

A B C D

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐



39. Which car do you think was responsible for the accident? Why? Give a reason from the text. (2 marks)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

40. The sentence in line 17 can be found in \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. business letters
- B. legal documents
- C. letters to the editor
- D. job application cover letters

A B C D

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

41. What is the significance of the following dates?

(2 marks)

i) 1st December \_\_\_\_\_

ii) 7th December \_\_\_\_\_

Read Text 4 and answer questions 42-55. (25 marks)

42. According to paragraph 1, what will no longer happen when cars drive themselves?

(2 marks)

i) \_\_\_\_\_

ii) \_\_\_\_\_

43. What does "the trip" in line 3 refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_

44. According to paragraph 1, what will drive cars in the future?

\_\_\_\_\_

45. Who is making driverless cars?

\_\_\_\_\_

46. Which organization did Daniel Fagnant write the report for?

\_\_\_\_\_

47. According to paragraph 4, which one of the following statements is true?

- A. Changing the transport system will be difficult.
- B. Self-driving cars won't be easy to transport.
- C. Autonomous vehicles won't bring changes to transportation.
- D. Daniel Fagnant doesn't support a change in the transport system.

A      B      C      D  
☐   ☐   ☐   ☐

48. Based on the information given in paragraphs 5 and 6, decide if the following statements are **True**, **False** or the information is **Not Given**. Blacken ONE circle only for each statement. (4 marks)

- |   | T                     | F                     | NG                    |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| i) There are more than 30,000 car crashes in the United States each year. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| ii) Fewer people would die in self-driving cars.                          | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| iii) Self-driving cars would reduce congestion.                           | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| iv) Self-driving cars will be smaller.                                    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

49. Match the main points (A-D) with one of the corresponding paragraphs on the left. Write the correct letter (A-D) on the line next to the paragraph number. ONE main point is NOT used. (3 marks)

Paragraph No.	Main Point
i) Paragraph 7 _____	A. The authors' calculations may not be accurate.
ii) Paragraph 8 _____	B. The authors think self-driving cars will save money.
iii) Paragraph 9 _____	C. The authors don't know the effect on society.
	D. The authors don't mention how expensive self-driving cars will be.

50. According to paragraph 10, what two problems may self-driving cars cause? (2 marks)

i) \_\_\_\_\_

ii) \_\_\_\_\_



51. What does "have a lot of hoops to leap through" mean in line 33? The dream of self-driving vehicles...
- A. will not likely happen because there are too many problems.
  - B. will take a lot of work before something happens.
  - C. will be very expensive, and therefore not likely to happen.
  - D. will happen over time, but very slowly.
- A      B      C      D  
☐   ☐   ☐   ☐
52. "Even that might be an underestimate" in line 35 suggests that the price of an autonomous vehicle will be...
- A. less than \$100,000.
  - B. \$100,000.
  - C. more than \$100,000.
  - D. five times the cost of average vehicles.
- A      B      C      D  
☐   ☐   ☐   ☐
53. Identify four main concerns which are holding back the introduction of self-driving cars. (4 marks)
- i) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- iv) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
54. When is it better for a vehicle to be controlled by a person rather than a computer? Give a reason from the text. (2 marks)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
55. What does "catch on" in the title mean?
- A. be finished
  - B. become safe
  - C. become better
  - D. become common
- A      B      C      D  
☐   ☐   ☐   ☐

**END OF PART B1**