

HKDSE Examination 2013: English Language Paper 4

Question 4.2 : Contact sports

Group Discussion Demonstration (recorded in Sep 2015):

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Level attained in DSE Eng Lang Paper 4</i>
A	2013	5*
B	2013	5*
C	2013	5**
D	2013	5*

Transcript (verbatim)

Examiner:

You may start now.

A:

Er, good afternoon, every ... good afternoon, everyone. So, today we're going to discuss ... whether teenagers should participate in full contact sports, that ... sports that physical contact with any opponent is allowed. Erm, in my opinion, I think that teenagers should participate in full contact sports. Er, although ... there may ... involve some brutality ... injuries, I think that ... physically ... full contact sports can be a good way to train one's strength and toughness because it requires ... vigorous exercise. And mentally, you can also train one to become tougher and ... braver individual because ... when you fall down, you need to stand up and you ... I think it can train one to be more perseverant, and it also ... train one's cooperation and teamwork.

D:

I ... I agree with you that ... teenagers should participate in full contact sport because ... it can train the teenagers' strength. And maybe we can first discuss about why some people are against full contact sport. I think that injuries should be the main reason that people oppose this. Erm, because ... take parents as an example, they may fear that their ... children may get injured during the full contact sport and they will, like, they will heart-broken. So, they'll ... they care about their children very much, so they will not want the teenagers to participate in full contact sport.

B:

Er, I definitely agree with candidate D for saying that ... parents will disagree that for kids to join full contact sports because there may be a risk for them to get injured during the sports. Er, and it is undoubtedly more violent and brutal than the limited or non-contact sports. Er, I also agree with candidate A that ... full contact sports can enhance one's physical health. And, therefore, I also think that teenagers should participate in full contact sports. And, adding on to the benefits of full contact sports, I'd like to also say that ... full contact sports would allow our kids to develop a diverse form of interest, which is beneficial for their all-rounded development, and for their personal development in the long term.

C:

I agree with student D that physical injuries are the main concern for parents objecting to full contact sport. And I'd also like to share my own experience because I've actually went ... gone to,

go to witness a rugby competition. And then, it was really brutal, like, people keep attacking each other, and pushing each other. And there were a lot of people bleeding severely. But then, ... they weren't sent to hospital and then they have to continue playing the sport. And I think that this is really dangerous because if the ... injuries are not treated ... immediately, they may have serious complications and then ... this will lead to really serious physical injuries. So, ... I think this is also one of the reasons that people ... disagree with full contact sports. And I also want to add another point, is that ... when they participate in these sport, their adrenaline level is really high, and so, they cannot really stop themselves from ... pushing, or ... pushing other people, so ... when they get angry during the sport, they may not be able to stop themselves or control themselves from pushing each other. So, ... this is another dangerous thing about the sport.

A:

Er, I agree with ... candidate C and D that ... physical injuries may be ... a very important reason that people are against full contact sports. But, in my opinion, ... I think that there are a lot of protective equipments that can be worn during the contact sports. And I think this can already minimise a lot of injuries. And I think that besides ... violence, actually ... other aspects or components of the sports, like skills and your speed, can also be ... ways to improve your ... competence in the sport. So, I think that we can teach the, I mean ... we ... to support students to participate in full contact sports, we should also emphasise all, all the aspects of this sports.

D:

Indeed, I agree with candidate ... A that ... we can ... avoid injuries through ... protective gears. And in fact, we have to think about ... whether the school provide the gears, or the students have to buy themselves if the school ... hold such full contact sports. Because if school does not provide such equipment, students have to buy themselves. And very often, like, some protective gears are very expensive, like, ... take ... American football as an example, they have to wear a lot of gears like chest guard and like, there are so many things. And also, if the students have to buy, if the school provides such ... equipments, they have to like, have ... regular maintenance, like they have to wash, wash them every time after they use, so, it's, kind of another cost to the school.

C:

And I think that we should also know that ... for some of the full contact sports, they do not have any protective gears, and it is one of rule that they cannot wear any ... protective helmets or thing ... stuff. So, ... it is ... also something that we should pay attention to. But, I do agree with student A that ... full contact sports may be a benefit to people, especially when ... students nowadays, they have really high pressure, and ... academically, so ... if they want to vent their anger through contact sports, it's a really good way to vent their anger and stress because ... they can use a lot of their energy to play the sport. Yeah ...

B:

Erm, I see your point for saying that protective gears may, may not always ... be allowed for full contact sport. But then, I think that as a teenager, we should also develop ... skills ... and learn to protect ourselves, like we should always protect ourselves from injury. Erm, so, talking ..., so, candidate D has just mentioned about some of the difficulties of introducing full contact sports in school. Er, other than the financial difficulties, I also think that ... it is quite impossible for schools in Hong Kong to find a coach or a venue to play this kind of full contact sports ... as ... they do not have widespread popularity in Hong Kong. And, yeah, and it is difficult from other, different from other sports like tennis or golf.

A:

Er, candidate C mentioned that ... Hong Kong students have huge pressure from ... study, and they need to vent their ... stress through, through contact sports. I think this is exactly the reason I think that ... introducing full contact sports in schools in Hong Kong is difficult because ... Hong Kong's education system ... makes students very nervous ... about their study and they will weigh study over any kind of extra-curricular activities, such as sports and music, because that's the only way they can get into good universities. So, in general, kids may be more reluctant to participate in ... sports and especially sports that may injure them, that can hinder the study.

C:

And I think that another challenge for the school is that ... family size in Hong Kong is rather small. And ... parents usually only have one or two children, so ... their ... parents actually become monster parents and they pay a lot of care or attention on their children. So, if their children get a bit of bruise, or even a bit of injury, they will get really nervous, or ... worried about their children, and they may complain to the school. And the school may have to take up the responsibility and it may be a really problematic thing. So, schools decided not to ... hold full contact sport as well.

D:

So, we have agreed that ... full contact sport's a great opportunity for ... teenagers to like, ... build their strength and ... release their pressure during ... school. So, that's the end of our discussion.

[End of discussion]