HKDSE Examination 2013: English Language Paper 4

Question 4.1: Are we cruel to our food?

Group Discussion Demonstration (recorded in Aug 2015):

Candidate	Year	Level attained in DSE Eng Lang Paper 4
Α	2014	4
В	2014	3
С	2014	4
D	2014	3

Transcript (with improved grammar in red)

Examiner:

You may start now.

D:

Er, let's start our discussion. Er, today, we're going to prepare for a debate in class, ... the title is ... cruel foods. Er, before ... we start the discussion ... we should ... define what is ... cruel food. Er, in my view, ... if, ... if the animal ... died dies after ... just suffering from a short period of ... pain, ... it doesn't belong to a cruel food. Er, otherwise, ... if the animal just ... suffering ... if the slaughterhouse ... kills them within ... one second or ... two seconds, ... this will ... belong to, this will not belong to cruel food. Yes, so, ... what do you think?

C:

Yes, I agree to with you, and your definitions are really good. Erm, so, let's move on to the first topic we need to discuss. Erm, the foods that come from animals which are ... cruelly treated, ... maybe the for example, dog's meat. Erm, although some laws were set up to protect the dog's right, but ... there, there are some cities in China ... which allow people to eat dog's meat. Erm, as I heard from others, ... people will insert a sharp spear ... into the dog's organ, such as their heart, or their brain, and then kill them ... It is really painful.

B:

Yes, as I am a dog lover, ... I think your, your ... dog meat is really a cruel food. Erm, so, another thing is, ... I think caviar is also a very ... food from animals which is, which are cruelly treated ... and caviar is a the eggs of fish or shrimp, and caviar will is put onto the on top of sushi and bread for the customer. And it is expensive and normal group of people like us couldn't afford it, like us, but some rich people, they can afford it and ... and eat them it. So, ... actually, why I think it is a cruel, cruelly food, because ... they are actually baby babies and they will be born and grow to become a fish, but before that ... they are, they were killed, so this is, I think this is ... cruelly treated food.

A:

Yes, I agree with you that ... fish eggs is a cruel food because the, the fish mother cannot protect her baby, she must be very desperated desperate. And, I also think ... monkey brain is a kind of cruel food. And, in some city cities in mainland China, ... people

there would eat, would cut open the brain head of a monkey while the monkey is still alive, and eat their food its brain. This is very cruel to the monkey and it would be very painful.

D:

Er, I have another idea of a different view on this. Er, as you said, ... fish is a cruel food but I don't think so. Because ... from my ... definition ... is not ... just killing the fish, just ... in one second, they ... they don't need to ... suffer ... from a long period of pain. So, I think ... this ... can't, this fish can't belong to cruel food. Er, and I think ... what is cruel food? ... take ... shark fin ... soup as an example. Er, when a slaughter shark hunter takes ... shark fin, they will ... cut off their fins and throw them to the ... throw them back them into the water. And leaving the ... leaving them to ... drown and bleed to death. So, I think ... the shark is ... suffering from a long period of pain, so, I think this is ... this belongs to a cruel food.

C:

Yeah, er, your points are really good. Erm, so, we need to move on to the next topic. I think there are some arguments for the motion. Firstly, the motion will be able to raise the awareness of eco-balance and ... environmental protection. Erm, because ... actually, I think humans should not destroy the ... natural habitats. Otherwise, we will suffer something really bad. Yeah, what's your opinion?

B:

Yes, in order to maintain the eco cycle, ... we should stop killing animals and ... provide a better environment for them to live ... and give birth to babies baby, and ... born some ... born eggs and they'll grow, and maintain the eco cycle.

A:

Erm, actually I think if ... just only eat, eating food of ... made of from animals may not ... destruct destroy the eco cycle, but killing them in a cruelly cruel way, it would ... would make them more painful.

D:

Yes, I agree with you. So, ... today we should discuss ... more about ... what type of about some examples of ... cruel food, or I talk ... once let me give one more example, like ... goose liver. Goose liver ... as we know, ... the taste is very ... creamy. Because ... the process of making goose liver is ... some people ... some people ... force them to eat a large amount of corn. So, ... during this ... during this ... period, they will ... suffer a ... great deal of ... pain. So, I think ... this thing is this thing can be avoided. So, I think ... this goose liver is also a cruel, cruel food.

B:

Yes, ... although treating animals cruelly is ... can be counted as ... not a good behavior, some people also ... are against this motion. Because they think that animal meats meat contains a lot of nutritions nutrition such as proteins, which is are necessary for us to rebuild our skin and organs' development. Er, and they ...

they said say that ... we can use some unpain painless methods to, to kill animals so that they couldn't feel any hurt or pain. And we can also treat them well before they're killed.

C:

Yeah, I get your point. It's really good. And also, I think, some of the ... meat, or some of the organs from the animals, can be some ... some herbal treatments for different diseases. Erm, because there are a lot of traditional Chinese doctors will use this kind of animals.

B:

So, today we have had a very fruitful discussion. Thank you very much.

[End of discussion]