

Candidate Number

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**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
 - D. Four hundred-year-old

A B C D

- (ii)
- A. loosened
 - B. fell down
 - C. were crushed
 - D. were cut down

A B C D

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.
(ii) The trees in Sai Ying Pun were taken down after experts were upset.
(iii) No one was hurt by the fallen trees.

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
D. A leaflet promoting Hong Kong’s heritage

A B C D

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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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) _____.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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

- (i) Visitors to Lam Tsuen buy prepared wishes to put on the tree.
(ii) Since 2005 there has been a decline in the number of worshippers at Lam Tsuen.
(iii) Shrines are frequently built in the branches of trees.

T F NG

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

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.