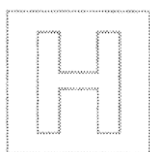


CANDIDATE NAME	CIVICS GROUP 6C ____	INDEX NUMBER 00 ____
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DUNMAN HIGH SCHOOL
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1

YEAR 6 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

GENERAL PAPER

8807/02

Paper 2

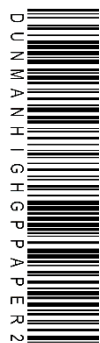
31 August 2020

INSERT

1 hour 30 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Insert contains the passages for Paper 2.



This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.

[Turn over

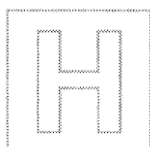
Passage 1. *D. V. Yates makes the case against conformity.*

- 1 From infancy, we are constantly commanded to conform. We are programmed to integrate into our given cultures, which then enables society to function like clockwork. In step we march, striving to keep pace with the beat, avoiding falling out of line. We shuffle along with the herd, unquestioningly trusting in its collective 'wisdom'. Like insects in a hive of mass, coordinated thought and action, we find belonging, security and strength in unity. Such a coherently organised system, however, may come at a cost. 5
- 2 Sometimes, to conform is to resign ourselves to a one-size-fits-all standard that may not provide room for the rich variety of potential voices and the plethora of personalities and perspectives among us. Although we are members of a collective, we are also individuals, each endowed with a unique identity and creative potential. To completely lose oneself in the crowd may be to suppress, distort or relinquish these essential elements of one's self, in favour of bland homogeneity. Consequently, beneath the placid surface of social harmony, an individual may feel tension between who she is and what society demands her to be. This may be why children raised to follow the conventions of their parents' generation often come to rebel against those conventions. Furthermore, students drilled to adhere to formulaic answering techniques find such education neither inspiring nor illuminating, but rather, mind-numbing. 10 15
- 3 Conformity can also impair judgement. When supporters of competing political ideologies dogmatically follow their respective tribe's positions on every issue, it prevents them from being open to the opposing side's viewpoints. The refusal to consider a more balanced stance results in extreme, close-minded thinking on each side of the political divide, thus contributing to political polarisation. Meanwhile, in the marketplace, conformity fuels mindless consumerism: motivated by the 'fear of missing out', we follow the trend of splurging on items that we do not really need, just to own the latest flavour-of-the-month gadgets and lifestyle goods. 20
- 4 In contrast, non-conformity can help society to overcome boundaries and progress beyond the outdated. In the arts, the most original artists and writers do not simply stick to familiar styles, but experiment and imaginatively enlarge our conception of their art form. Where would we find a Picasso or a James Joyce in a world where no one bothers or dares to venture beyond well-trodden paths in painting and literature? And in politics, activists such as Gandhi and Rosa Parks have challenged imperialism and racism through civil disobedience, peacefully but resolutely refusing to comply with oppressive authorities. Controversial as their actions may have been, these activists spoke truth to power by publicly expressing how morally unacceptable their governments and laws were, eventually gaining admiration for being on the right side of history. 25 30
- 5 Norms, rules and orders are not always fair or rational. Where they are not, we should consider tolerating deviation, appreciating dissent and championing diversity. As disruptive as this may be, the rewards will be a heightened ability to make groundbreaking discoveries, a more vibrant culture, and greater space for creative expression of our individual identities. 35

Passage 2. *Sim Yi Ler argues for conformity.*

- 1 In the days of the caveman, conformity meant the difference between life and death: by acting as the group did, the individual gained benefits such as being seen in a better light (and therefore being accepted by the group), protection, shared food, and companionship. Today, we do the same thing, encouraging consistent behaviour within nations, communities, and neighbourhoods to ensure our continued existence. We work with one another, based on similar sets of values and expectations, to create rules and regulations for living together and penalise those who defy them. A group identity emerges and we become stronger from it; arguably, only then can harmony exist. Conformity is thus the bedrock of stable, predictable societies where people can easily build their families and secure bright futures. Such a society then becomes the envy of people from volatile countries, who yearn for constancy in their lives. 5
- 2 Conformity also achieves impartiality. Compliance to societal rules ensures that everyone does their fair share in terms of serving in armies for defence, being productive at work, keeping our environment clean, or even in the mandatory helping of the needy. By passing laws to make participation in such schemes compulsory, we achieve a greater good when everybody toes the line. Clearly, conformity is crucial, be it in times of peace or crisis. Extreme as it might sound, without it, anarchy occurs and key systems break down. 10
- 3 And where would our cultures be without conformity? After all, traditions are only created when we repeat the actions of our forefathers – following the same thing festival after festival, to exhibit our steadfastness to good old values. Traditions remind us that we are a part of a history that defines our past, and that shapes us today and who we are likely to become. Conforming to traditions contributes to our sense of belonging and rootedness, and is a way to honour the contributions of those who came before us. Religions rely on conformity too: rituals instil dutiful attitudes in their adherents and also engender powerful collective emotions that are cathartic for the soul. For example, 1.9 billion Muslims pray in the direction of the holy Kaabah, the centre of Islam's holiest mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, thus sharing a sense of solidarity wherever they may be in the world. Indeed, only by conforming to collective practices can we then connect to a cosmic framework larger than ourselves. 20
- 4 Admittedly, there are legitimate concerns about how conformity can breed stagnation and may seem antithetical to creativity. After all, conformity is about sameness and continuity, while creativity demands the willingness to break away from routines in order to progress. However, people overlook the fact that sometimes, conformity can help to boost creativity by acting as a catalyst. In fact, it is largely by conforming to certain established norms that our new ideas are able to take flight. For example, after tech giant Apple revolutionised smart phone technology with the first iPhone in 2007, competing companies proceeded to jump on the bandwagon. They, too, began to copy Apple's lead in placing a similarly heavy emphasis on design aesthetics and creating an overall seamless experience for users. Interestingly, this conformity to the new norm in telecommunications did not lead to the death of innovation. On the contrary, it inspired these competitors to outdo Apple at its own game, and this sparked its own wave of innovations. 35
- 5 In a world that champions rapid change and hip individualism, some may be tempted to believe that conformity has lost its relevance. But being conformist means that we copy the things that are popularly accepted in the world, and these things are often good and useful. Conformity may no longer primarily determine whether we live or die, and yet on the whole, it is no less important than it was in the time of our primitive predecessors. 40

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DUNMAN HIGH SCHOOL
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level
Higher 1

YEAR 6 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

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GENERAL PAPER

8807/02

Paper 2

31 August 2020

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your civics group, index number and full name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue, highlighters or correction fluid / tape.

DO **NOT** WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **all** questions.

The Insert contains the passages for comprehension.

Note that up to **15** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

AQ Mark	
For Examiner's Use	
Content	/ 35
Language	/ 15
Total	/ 50

This document consists of **6** printed pages and **1** Insert.

[Turn over



Read the passages in the Insert and then answer **all** the questions. Note that up to fifteen marks will be given for the quality and accuracy of your use of English throughout this Paper.

NOTE: When a question asks for an answer **IN YOUR OWN WORDS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE** and you select the appropriate material from the passage for your answer, you must still use your own words to express it. Little credit can be given to answers which only copy words and phrases from the passage.

From Passage 1

- 1 What does the phrase 'shuffle along with the herd' (line 3) imply about the author's attitude towards conformity?

.....

..... [1]

- 2 Explain what the author is implying by using the word 'what' in line 13.

.....

..... [1]

- 3 In paragraph 2, how does the author illustrate the tension that exists between the self and society? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

- 4 How does conformity fuel 'mindless consumerism' (line 22)? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 5 Why does the author use the phrases 'tolerating deviation', 'appreciating dissent' and 'championing diversity' (line 36) in this sequence?

.....

..... [1]



- 6 Using your own words as far as possible, explain what the author suggests are the ‘rewards’ (line 37) of embracing non-conformity.

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

From Passage 2

- 7 When the author writes that ‘In the days of the caveman... the individual gained benefits’ (lines 1 – 2), what is he implying are the disadvantages of not conforming to the group? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 8 In line 13, what is the author suggesting about human nature by including the ‘helping of the needy’ as something that has to be ‘mandatory’?

.....

..... [1]

- 9 Explain the author’s use of the word ‘admittedly’ in line 28.

.....

..... [1]

- 10 In paragraph 4, in which **two** ways has ‘tech giant Apple revolutionised smart phone technology’ (line 33)? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....

.....

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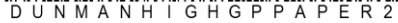
..... [2]



[1]

[8]

8807/02/2020/PRELIMS



From both passages

- 13** One author thinks that conformity does not benefit us, while the other believes it could benefit us all.

How far do you agree with the opinions expressed in these **two** passages? Support your answer with examples drawn from your own experience and that of your society.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, middle, and bottom lines) for letter formation.

2020 PRELIMS PAPER 2

SUGGESTED ANSWER KEY AND MARK SCHEME

1. What does the phrase 'shuffle along with the herd' (line 3) imply about the author's attitude towards conformity? [1]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
We shuffle along with the herd , unquestioningly trusting in its collective ' wisdom '.	<p>(a) Author's attitude: The phrase implies the author's <u>disdain / disapproval / critical view / scepticism / dislike...</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reject 'disagrees' (Does not convey a sufficiently intense, emotionally judgemental state of the author.) Reject 'negative attitude' (Too vague / general.) <p>(b) Context / Interpretation of 'shuffle' or 'herd':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ...towards people who <u>unthinkingly / mindlessly / blindly / passively</u> follow the crowd. OR ...(scepticism) towards conformists' <u>ability to think for themselves.</u> <p><i>Answer must refer to some specific negative characteristic of conformists implied by 'shuffle' or 'herd'. Reject 'of conformity' / the benefits of conformity'.</i></p>

2. Explain what the author is implying by using the word 'what' in line 13. [1]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
Consequently, beneath the placid surface of social harmony, an individual may feel tension between who she is and what society demands her to be.	<p>The author implies that there are certain <u>roles and expectations</u> placed on individuals in society.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The author is implying that society's demands may be <u>dehumanising / may not recognise people's individuality.</u></p> <p><i>Answer requires candidates to notice the contrast between the words 'what' and 'who', and recognise that 'what' is used more to refer to things, animals or roles rather than individual people.</i></p>

3. In Paragraph 2, how does the author illustrate the tension that exists between the self and society? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [3]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
<p>Consequently, beneath the placid surface of social harmony, an individual may feel <u>tension</u> between who she is and what society demands her to be. This may be why children raised to</p> <p>(a) <u>follow the conventions</u> of their <u>parents' generation</u></p> <p>(b) often come to <u>rebel</u> against those conventions.</p> <p>(c) And students <u>drilled to adhere</u> to</p> <p><u>formulaic</u> answering <u>techniques</u> find such education</p> <p>(d) neither <u>inspiring nor illuminating</u>, but rather, <u>mind-numbing</u>.</p>	<p>The author illustrates the tension by highlighting how children who have grown up to:</p> <p>(a) <u>behave similarly / obey norms</u> from their <u>elders / parents' time</u> (any idea capturing the past era. 'Parents' can be lifted.)</p> <p>(b) will <u>push back</u> against these traditions</p> <p>(c) And pupils trained to <u>comply/stick</u> to ('drilled' doesn't need to be paraphrased. Capture the broad idea of compliance.) <u>robotic/prescriptive modes/methods</u> of solving questions (For 'formulaic answering techniques', can award for the broad idea, eg. 'model answers'. 'Answering' can be lifted.)</p> <p>(d) find such learning not <u>invigorating</u> but instead <u>dulling</u> for the brain. [Point (d) can be just a paraphrasing of 'inspiring/illuminating' on its own, if that also captures opposite of 'mind-numbing'.]</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1 pt = 1m 2-3 pts = 2m 4 pts = 3m</p>

4. How does conformity fuel 'mindless consumerism' (line 22)? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
<p>Meanwhile, in the marketplace, conformity fuels mindless consumerism:</p> <p>(a) <u>motivated</u> by the '<u>fear</u> of <u>missing out</u>',</p> <p>(b) we <u>follow the trend</u> of <u>splurging</u> on items that we do <u>not</u> really <u>need</u>,</p> <p>(c) just to <u>own</u> the <u>latest flavour-of-the-month</u> gadgets and lifestyle goods.</p>	<p>Conformity fuels mindless consumerism as people become</p> <p>a) <u>driven</u> by <u>anxiety</u> at <u>falling behind</u></p> <p>b) and <u>go along with the pattern / keep up with the norm</u> of <u>spending heavily/ wastefully/ extravagantly</u> on things we do <u>not require</u>,</p> <p>c) just to <u>possess</u> the <u>newest / most fashionable</u> devices and commodities. ('Newest' captures 'flavour-of-the-month'; no need 'fashionable' as well; superlative required.)</p> <p>1-2 pt = 1m 3 pts = 2m</p>

5. Why does the author use the phrases 'tolerating deviation', 'appreciating dissent' and 'championing diversity' (line 36) in this sequence? [1]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
<p>Where they are not, we should consider tolerating deviation, appreciating dissent and championing diversity.</p>	<p>The author is sequencing them to (author's intention)</p> <p>(a) to <u>capture/show</u> / to <u>emphasise/encourage</u></p> <p>(nature of sequence)</p> <p>(b) the order of <u>increasingly positive / intense</u> actions</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b) that the action <u>escalates</u> from individual to societal level.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b) the need for <u>progressive</u> development / <u>improvement</u> towards non-conformity.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b) (to encourage) people to take <u>small/incremental steps</u> in <u>improving</u> the situation.</p>

6. **Using your own words as far as possible**, explain what the author suggests are the 'rewards' (line 38) of embracing non-conformity. [2m]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
<p>...the rewards will be a</p> <p>(a) <u>heightened</u></p> <p>(b) ability to make <u>ground-breaking discoveries</u>,</p> <p>(c) a more <u>vibrant culture</u>,</p> <p>(d) and greater <u>space</u> for creative <u>expression</u> of our <u>individual identities</u>.</p>	<p>The author suggests that the rewards are in</p> <p>(a) a <u>larger/bigger</u> (At least one intensifier is needed to front the entire answer)</p> <p>(b) capacity to create <u>new/ novel/ unprecedented/ impactful/ game-changing</u> (idea of either newness / impact)</p> <p><u>innovations/findings</u></p> <p>(c) have an increasingly <u>lively/exciting/flourishing/diverse way of life</u></p> <p>(d) and in having more <u>avenues</u> to <u>showcase/convey</u> <u>who we are / each person's sense of self</u>.</p> <p>1-2 pts = 1m 3-4 pts = 2m</p>

7. When the author writes that 'In the days of the caveman... the individual gained benefits' (lines 1 – 2), what is he implying are the disadvantages of not conforming to the group? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2].

From the passage	Suggested Answer
In the days of the caveman, conformity meant the difference between life and death: by acting as the group did, the individual gained benefits such as (a) <u>being seen in a better light</u> (and therefore being <u>accepted</u> by the group), (b) <u>protection</u> , (c) shared <u>food</u> , and (d) <u>companionship</u> .	Not conforming would result in (a) being <u>viewed negatively</u> / in a <u>worse manner</u> and facing <u>rejection</u> , (b) <u>danger</u> / being <u>unsafe</u> / <u>left to fend for oneself</u> (c) <u>hunger</u> / <u>starvation</u> (d) <u>loneliness</u> / <u>lack of friendship</u> . 1-2pts: 1m 3-4pts: 2m

8. In line 13, what is the author suggesting about human nature by including the 'helping of the needy' as something that has to be 'mandatory'? [1]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
Compliance to societal rules ensures that everyone does their fair share in terms of creating armies for defence, being productive at work, keeping our environment clean, or even in the <u>mandatory helping of the needy</u> .	<i>Inferred characteristic of humans:</i> He is suggesting that humans are innately <u>selfish/ passive</u> ... <i>Context (what makes us infer that characteristic):</i> ...with little incentive to offer aid to others if not prompted to do so. OR ...since they need to be compelled to help the needy. (Ok to lift 'mandatory' and 'helping of the needy'.)

9. Explain the author's use of the word 'admittedly' in line 28. [1]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
Admittedly , there are legitimate concerns about how conformity can breed stagnation and may seem antithetical to creativity.	<i>Function (some action the author uses the word to do):</i> The author is (a) <u>recognising/ acknowledging/ accepting</u> (Reject 'agreement' – even though the author is accepting that an opposing view exists, she is not agreeing with it.) (b) an <u>opposing/ alternate view</u> OR (a) and (b) <u>conceding</u> (captures the idea that it is an opposing view) AND (c) that conformity may be viewed as having a <u>negative</u> impact on one's creativity. (Context; any description of the negative view of conformity.) a+b+c = 1m

10. In paragraph 4, in which **two** ways has 'tech giant Apple revolutionised smart phone technology' (line 33)? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2m]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
For example, after <i>tech giant Apple revolutionised smart phone technology</i> with the first iPhone in 2007, competing companies proceeded to jump on the bandwagon. They, too, began to copy Apple's lead in placing a similarly (a) heavy <u>emphasis</u> on <u>design aesthetics</u> (b) and creating an overall <u>seamless</u> experience for users.	Apple has put (a) <u>importance/ priority/ weight/ focus</u> on the <u>style/form/look/appearance</u> of their devices [1] (b) and provided a <u>smooth/ continuous/ intuitive/ convenient/ easy/ uninterrupted</u> experience for its users. [1]

11. Which phrase in lines 33 – 39 echoes the author's point that conformity can help to 'boost creativity by acting as a catalyst' (lines 31 – 32)? [1]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
However, people overlook the fact that sometimes, conformity can help to boost creativity by acting as a catalyst . In fact, it is largely by conforming to certain established norms that our new ideas are <i>able to take flight</i> . For example, after tech giant Apple revolutionised smart phone technology with the first iPhone in 2007, competing companies proceeded to jump on the bandwagon. They, too, began to copy Apple's lead in placing a similarly heavy emphasis on design aesthetics and creating an overall seamless experience for users. Interestingly, this conformity to the new norm in telecommunication did not lead to the death of innovation. On the contrary, it inspired these competitors to outdo Apple at its own game , and this sparked its own wave of innovations .	The phrase is ' sparked its own wave of innovations .'
	OR
	The phrase is ' inspired competitors to outdo Apple at its own game .'
	Students must give phrase , not whole sentence.

12. Using material from Paragraphs 2-3 in Passage 2, summarise what the author has to say about conformity and its benefits.

Today, conformity is beneficial ...

No.	Passage	Paraphrased
Paragraph 2		
a	Conformity also achieves impartiality . Compliance to societal rules ensures that everyone does their fair share	... as all contribute equally / all do their part (Anything to do with equality or fairness.)
b	in terms of serving in armies for defence ,	be it for the country's security/protection / the military . (Reject 'protection' on its own.)
c	being productive at work,	efficiency/industry ,
d	keeping our environment clean ,	eco-friendliness / pleasant surroundings ,
e	or even in the mandatory helping of the needy .	or charity .
f	By passing laws to make participation in such schemes compulsory ,	By legislating to force people to join/partake/contribute to such systems,
g	we achieve a greater good when everybody toes the line.	we attain large-scale/societal benefits/ society improves significantly as everyone complies. (Ok to lift 'good' or 'benefits' e.g. 'societal benefit'. Accept 'We benefit', 'Utilitarianism'.)
h	Clearly, conformity is crucial , be it in times of peace or crises .	Conformity is essential amidst stability and instability/danger . (Accept 'no matter the situation' for 'peace or crisis'.)
i	Extreme as it might sound, without it, anarchy occurs	Without it, chaos/lawlessness ensues (Accept 'conformity upholds stability', as it conveys the idea of anarchy being prevented.)
j	and key systems break down .	and integral/critical structures fail/collapse . (Accept 'institutions' for 'key systems'.)
Paragraph 3		
k	And where would our cultures be without conformity?	Conformity preserves our way of life / norms .
l	After all, traditions are only created	Customs/ Time-honoured/ long-standing practices are generated/initiated
m	when we repeat the actions of our forefathers – following the same thing festival after festival,	by copying (Reject 'following', as it is in the same sentence.) our ancestors'/ past generations' practices

n	to exhibit our <u>steadfastness</u> to good old <u>values</u> .	to show <u>dedication/commitment</u> to <u>principles/morals</u> .
o	Traditions <u>remind</u> us that we are a <u>part</u> of a <u>history</u> that defines our past, and that shapes us today and who we are likely to become.	These help us <u>recall/reinforce</u> our <u>identity/place</u> in <u>time/continuity</u> .
p	Conforming to traditions contributes to our sense of <u>belonging</u> and <u>rootedness</u> ,	They give us a <u>community/ attachment/ a place in society/ a home / stability/groundedness</u> . (Paraphrase one of EITHER belonging OR rootedness.)
q	and is a way to <u>honour</u> the contributions of <u>those who came before us</u> .	They <u>celebrate/respect/pay our dues</u> to our <u>ancestors</u> .
r	Religions <u>rely</u> on conformity too:	Religion is <u>supported by / depends</u> on conformity. (Ok to lift 'religion'.)
s	<u>rituals instil dutiful</u> attitudes in their adherents	<u>Prescribed behaviours cultivate obedience</u> in followers
t	and also engender <u>powerful collective emotions</u> that are <u>cathartic</u> for the soul.	and create/trigger <u>strong, shared feelings</u> , OR acting as a <u>release of feelings</u> .
u	For example, all of the 1.9 billion Muslims pray in the direction of the holy Kaabah, the center of Islam's holiest mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, thus sharing a sense of <u>solidarity</u> wherever they may be in the world.	(sieving point from example) Religious conformity allows for feelings of <u>unity</u> among worshippers
v	Indeed, only by conforming to collective practices can we then <u>connect</u> to a cosmic framework <u>larger</u> than ourselves.	Conformity <u>links/ties</u> us to metaphysical structures <u>transcending/ bigger</u> than humanity.

Point-Mark Table

No. of pts	Marks
1 - 2	1
3 - 4	2
5 - 6	3
7 - 8	4
9	5
10 - 11	6
12 - 13	7
≥14	8

13. Application question

One author thinks that conformity does not benefit us, while the other believes it could benefit us all.

How far do you agree with the opinions expressed in these two passages? Support your answer with examples drawn from your own experience and that of your society.