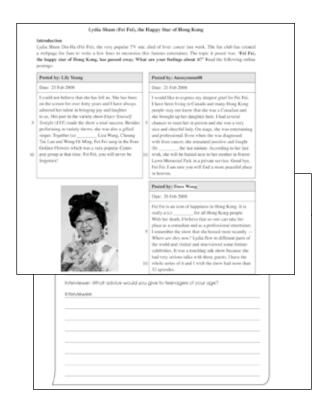
Special Features

Revised 1. Closely aligned with the latest HKCEE

It adopts the 2007 and 2008 exam formats. In Paper 1A, the new text types including poems and advertisements are added with the new question types such as completing the timeline. In Paper 1B, pictorial compositions and questions on essay competition are provided.



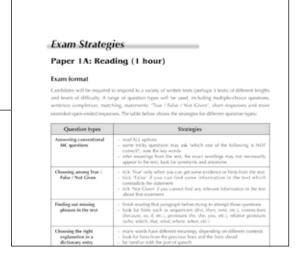


2. Plenty of Mock Exam Papers

12 revised mock exam papers with varying levels of difficulty familiarise students with the new exam format and requirements.

Revised 3. Exam Strategies

Detailed and essential skills and tactics are provided for students to tackle the new exam question types.





4. Progress Report

It enables students to conduct self-evaluation. Teachers are also well-informed of the students' progress.

Revised 5. Revision Cards

Useful vocabulary and expressions from the mock practices are printed on handy cards for students' quick revision.





6. Additional Supporting Aid— Full Answer Key

A full answer key is available for easy reference.

Exam Strategies

Paper 1A: Reading (1 hour)

Exam format

Candidates will be required to respond to a variety of written texts (perhaps 3 texts) of different lengths and levels of difficulty. A range of question types will be used, including multiple-choice questions, sentence completion, matching, statements: 'True / False / Not Given', short responses and more extended open-ended responses. The table below shows the strategies for different question types:

Question types	Strategies
Answering conventional MC questions	 read ALL options some tricky questions may ask 'which one of the following is NOT correct?'; note the key words infer meanings from the text, the exact wordings may not necessarily appear in the text, look for synonyms and antonyms
Choosing among True / False / Not Given	 tick 'True' only when you can get some evidence or hints from the text tick 'False' if you can find some information in the text which contradicts the statement tick 'Not Given' if you cannot find any relevant information in the text about that statement
Finding out missing phrases in the text	 finish reading that paragraph before trying to attempt those questions look for hints such as sequencers (first, then, next, etc.), connectives (because, so, if, etc.), pronouns (he, she, you, etc.), relative pronouns (who, which, that, what, where, when, etc.)
Choosing the right explanation in a dictionary entry	 many words have different meanings, depending on different contexts look for hints from the previous lines and the lines ahead be familiar with the part of speech
Choosing or creating an appropriate and alternative title	 distinguish between generalization and specification when asked to 'choose' an appropriate title, pick the one which correlates itself with the contextual background when asked to 'create' an alternative title, bear in mind that good topics are succinct, relevant and concise
Matching the subheadings or summarizing meanings of paragraphs	 finish reading the paragraphs, then start picking the right subheadings or summary synonyms and antonyms, instead of the exact words, will appear in the subheadings or summary each choice should be used once only
Understanding idiomatic phrases	 some idioms or items of figurative language may appear in the text it is normal that you may not have seen those lines before, but look for hints that help you explain and understand the phrase
Filling in summary cloze	 understand the meaning of the summary compare the summary and the original text to work out the missing word grammatical accuracy is important fill in one word only in each blank

Read the following online postings and then answer questions 20–30.

(24 marks)

The Sudden Shut-down of Universal Travel

Introduction

Universal Travel, a well-known Hong Kong travel agent, suddenly closed down yesterday. The Labour Union has created a webpage for ex-staff of the company to voice their opinions on the sudden shut-down. Read the following online postings:

Posted by: Mike Wong

Date: 2 April 2008

It all happened so suddenly. No one in my office saw this coming. We were still working well the day before, but when we came back to our Tsim Sha Tsui office yesterday, it was all dark and locked. There was a notice at the door, telling customers that it had closed down and that it was sorry to (a) _____ caused any inconvenience. Nothing was mentioned about us. We were all furious.

Posted by: May Cheng

Date: 5 April 2008

I have worked there for over 10 years! See what it did to me. Besides the salary of the previous month, it owed me some compensation too. Will my annual leave be paid? Will I get my pension? And how about my personal belongings? Same (b) ______ Mike, my office in Central was also locked and I still have my property there. Did it have the right to confiscate the staff's personal belongings? I suggest the Labour Union take some legal action right now!

Posted by: Ceci Lee

Date: 9 April 2008

Thanks to the Labour Union, which created this page for us. I am sad that the company has closed down. I guess there must be some reasons to explain what has happened. Though we haven't got our salary for the previous month, I think we should calm down and wait to see what will happen next. Maybe it will compensate us. Maybe a press conference will be held to explain everything or maybe a meeting will be organized with the company to sort things out. Let's just wait and see!

10

Posted by: Joe Ma

Date: 1 April 2008

It is really a very bad day. I am unemployed again. I just got this job three weeks ago and I thought I was going to be settled. The pay was fine and the colleagues (c) ______ nice to me. But now ...

Posted by: Bob Leung

Date: 1 April 2008

I am sorry for you, Joe. But I am not better than you. I am the breadwinner of my family and my wife is pregnant. I am forty years old and I cannot afford to (d) ______ the job. I have started looking for jobs at other travel agents but it seems like it is not that easy given my condition and the general economic climate. I am really not confident that I can secure a new job within this month.

Posted by: Sue Tse

Date: 6 April 2008

I had a really bad experience today. My colleague and I went back to my Kowloon Bay office to see if there was any update. We were looking around, checking if there was any manager presence or newly-posted notices outside the office. Suddenly, two women yelled at us and asked us to give them back their money. We then found that they had bought two flight tickets to LA, but were not contacted since they had paid the full price the day before the company closed down. They were so angry and impolite, and they put the blame on us as they recognized that we worked for the company. We could understand their grievances, but could they understand ours?

-3-

Part 2 (24 marks)

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

PAPER 1B WRITING

Complete both tasks.

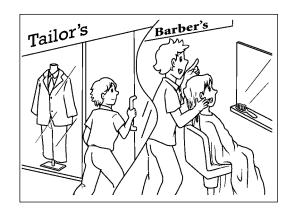
Task 1

Complete the story told below for your school magazine. Think about the question in picture 4 and write an interesting ending for your story. Give the story a title.

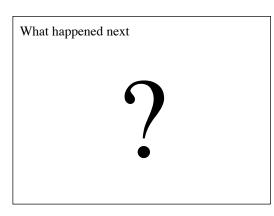
2.

4.

1. I'll have a job interview soon.



3. Pete



Task 2

Write about 250 words on ONE of the following topics.

- 1. If you had a choice, which one would you prefer, to study overseas or in Hong Kong? Give reasons to support your choice.
- 2. Write a letter to your friend Wendy about your job as a private tutor for a primary student. Sign your letter Chris.