

PART A

Read Text 1 and answer questions 1-23 in the Question-Answer Book for Part A.

Text 1

Hong Kong's comic industry is proverbially in shreds. The biggest saboteur? The internet

- 1 [1] In recent months, old-school Hong Kong comics appear to be gaining much attention. Alfonso Wong, the genius behind the Old Master Q series that has captivated countless readers since 1962, showcased 128 drawings at an auction. All those pieces were sold at the event, which drew more than 5,000 visitors in 10 days, evidence that fans are still rabid for traditional comics.
- 5 [2] Meanwhile, there is an exhibition by another homegrown comic mastermind, Lee Wai Chun Theresa, the artist-author behind the popular Miss 13 Dot series. Her '13-Dot' exhibition at Comix Home Base in Wan Chai is also hotly tipped.
- 10 [3] To the undiscerning observer, it's easy to interpret these signs as evidence of a healthy homegrown industry. In truth, they are rare moments of reprieve from a harsher reality: the traditional comic industry in Hong Kong is dying. Its pains have frequently been reported in the media: years of declining book sales, industry players struggling to make a living. What led to this predicament? Does the highly visual book culture, which has captivated many generations of fans, have a future? It may one day become a relic, only accessible at cultural exhibitions and auction houses.
- 15 [4] During the heyday for comics in the 1980s and 1990s, illustrators like Hong Kong artist Lam Cheung Kwan Elphonso could make a living drawing comics exclusively, just as he did while working on titles like 'True Love', 'The Jam' and 'Super Seven'. "Now, if I only drew comics, I wouldn't make enough income," he says.
- 20 [5] Lam's latest comics include 'Seer', which is featured in a local magazine, and the artist also just released 'The Greatest Hits' this month, a collection of short story illustrations he penned from the 1990s to now. Additionally, he has to juggle many jobs, including storyboarding for films, design work for fashion brands, figurine production and artwork for merchandising: many industry veterans like himself who have experienced the heyday for comics have seen their profession dwindle into sidejobs.
- 25 [6] The main culprit behind this predicament? "Free website comics have destroyed the industry," he says. Readers can get shorter four-block strips online, which are updated frequently, at no cost. Like many industries disrupted by the internet revolution – music, newspapers, TV and films – the comic scene is struggling against the tide of free original or pirated content. "In this age, readers think they don't need to pay for comics, like free music," says Lam.
- 30 [7] The threshold to enter the scene has become low. Anyone can become a comic artist; all you need is a website. Traditionally, artists like Lam laboured for years to acquire skills to draw comics and to secure opportunities in the profession. Success back then meant generating quality books that achieved high sales. Now? "If you upload comics to a website and generate many clicks, you can become famous," says Lam. He thinks poor quality digital content by amateurs has contributed to the industry's collapse.
- 35 [8] Official statistics about this sector are difficult to get. Alan Wan, CEO of Anitime Animation Studio and one of the founding directors at the Hong Kong Comics and Animation Federation, reveals educated estimates. He has been in the business since the 1970s in various roles starting first as a writer and then moving into production, licensing, syndication, and management. He recalls the peak between 1995 and 2000 when the market generated around HKD700 million from local comics, Chinese-translated Japanese Manga and more. "By 2010 that figure fell to around HKD300 million, a drop of more than 50 percent," Wan says.
- 40 [9] These numbers were collated from more than 80 companies that were part of the Hong Kong Comics and Animation Federation. The executive agrees that free digital comics have obliterated a significant portion of the market, but stresses that a toxic storm of other factors has also contributed to the current pains. There's the dwindling distribution network. For instance, comic stores are a dying breed. There were around 350 comic stores at the peak of the market, now there are less than 100, he says. Likewise, street news vendors, who comic publishers depended on to stock their print material, are nearing extinction.
- 45



50 [10] “The Hong Kong government will not grant new licenses to newsstands, which is why you see them less nowadays.” Additionally, these independent street operators are unable to compete with the proliferation of convenience store chains, which have become a more prevalent medium for selling various printed materials. They charge higher fees than newsstands to have content stocked in their stores, so many comic book publishers do not use this platform.

55 [11] The industry veteran left the local comic scene four years ago to join the animation TV, film and toy business in the Mainland at Anitime Animation Studio. “It’s tough being in a new business and a totally different environment, but if I had stayed in Hong Kong, I would have faced having to shrink my business and changing everything just for a small market.” Wan would rather work hard to overcome his challenges in the Mainland (which include different regulations and audience tastes), as he’s optimistic about the prospect of greater gains in a bigger market if he succeeds.

[12] Many former publishers like himself have adapted in the new era, whether it’s by switching to different markets or mediums or by branching out to other sides of the business such as licensing digital content to gaming companies. “You can’t just rely on the old market of comic book publishing,” Wan says.

60 [13] Yet he remains positive about the industry’s outlook, hoping it becomes more creative and innovative in these evolving times. “People want more content from many devices, not only from publishing but from TV, mobiles, game consoles and computers.” Wan insists that in these more connected and globalised times, content producers need to reevaluate their competitors and consumers, as every product needs to be international, not local. “Your competition is now worldwide,” he says. So locally-focused content, which only Hong Kongers can appreciate, won’t export well. He advises instead: conceive good content that attracts a broader audience.

65 [14] Lam agrees that a greater diversity of comic styles is needed as the new generation of readers demand new stories and visuals. While other leading comic nations like the US and Japan have worked to stay in tune with the evolving readership, this is not so in Hong Kong. “Many old-school comic artists have not updated their kung fu-style, which was popular from the 1960s to the 1990s,” explains Lam. The artist adds most young people find these fighting comics outdated. “Now they want lifestyle comics about girlfriends and boyfriends, families or themes relatable to the troubles in their lives.”

70 [15] He’s pessimistic about the industry’s future, citing the demolition of the Kowloon Walled City as an example of how culture and history is unappreciated in Hong Kong. “People’s style here is money, money, money. They don’t want to keep the culture. They just destroy and destroy.” Asked whether he foresees improvements in the industry anytime soon, he simply shrugs.

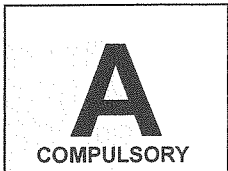
END OF READING PASSAGE

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *HKDSE Question Papers* booklet published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.

Candidate Number

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**HKDSE 2022
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 Text 1 and answer questions 1-23. (42 marks)

Text 1

1. Complete the summary of paragraphs 1 and 2 by selecting the best option from the choices below. (3 marks)

__(i)__ recently showcased Alfonso Wong’s Old Master Q series and sold __(ii)__ drawings by this genius.
Meanwhile, Comix Home Base is showcasing work by __(iii)__.

- (i) A. A fan
 - B. A reader
 - C. An auction
 - D. An exhibition
- A B C D
○ ○ ○ ○

- (ii) A. 10
 - B. 13
 - C. over a hundred
 - D. over a thousand
- A B C D
○ ○ ○ ○

- (iii) A. Miss 13 Dot
 - B. the exhibition
 - C. Alfonso Wong
 - D. Lee Wai Chun Theresa
- A B C D
○ ○ ○ ○

2. Find a word or phrase in paragraph 2 which has a similar meaning to ‘strongly recommended’.

3. What is the purpose of the phrase ‘In truth’ (line 10)?

- A. to conclude an idea
 - B. to show cause and effect
 - C. to show a contrast in ideas
 - D. to support the previous point
- A B C D
○ ○ ○ ○

4. Give two pieces of evidence the writer provides in paragraph 3 to support the claim that ‘the traditional comic industry in Hong Kong is dying’ (lines 10-11). (2 marks)

(i) _____

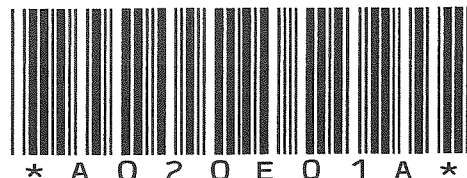
(ii) _____

5. What does ‘It may one day become a relic’ (line 14) suggest about the comic industry in Hong Kong?

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Answers written in the margins will not be marked.



Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

6. Find a word or phrase in paragraph 5 which has a similar meaning to 'manage multiple tasks at the same time'.

7. Complete the biography of Lam Cheung Kwan Elphonso based on the information in paragraphs 4 and 5 by writing ONE word taken from these paragraphs in each blank below. Your answers must be grammatically correct. (3 marks)

I'm Lam Cheung Kwan Elphonso. When I started as a comic (i) _____, I used to earn a living by drawing comics. Some of my (ii) _____ can be found in comics such as 'True Love', 'The Jam', and 'Super Seven'. I have just released many of my short story drawings since the 1990s in a 'Greatest Hits' collection. Today, I would not be able to make enough money if I did not take up (iii) _____.

8. What does 'this predicament' (line 25) refer to? The fact that...

- A. Lam cannot publish comics anymore.
- B. Lam and his short stories are losing money.
- C. Lam is unable to earn enough as an illustrator.
- D. Lam does not like producing artwork and merchandise.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| A | B | C | D |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

9. Find a word or phrase in paragraph 6 which has a similar meaning to 'facing difficulties'.

10. According to paragraphs 6 and 7, decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG). (3 marks)

Statements	T	F	NG
(i) Lam dislikes drawing four-block strips.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) In the past, comic writers put a lot of effort into improving their skills.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) According to Lam, amateur comic artists always produce high-quality work.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Below is a summary of paragraphs 6 and 7. In four 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 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. (5 marks)

Summary	Correction
(i) Elphonso Lam believes that the comic book industry will continue to gain	
(ii) revenue because original comics can be available at high costs. It is	
(iii) easy to call yourself a comic artist as long as you have access to a publisher.	
(iv) If you get enough readers clicking on your online comics, you may become	
(v) a traditional comic artist regardless of the quality of your work.	

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Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

12. Do you think it is beneficial that 'The threshold to enter the scene has become low' (line 29)? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

13. Find a metaphor in paragraph 9 used to describe the difficulties that the Hong Kong comic industry is facing.

14. What are the 'other factors' (line 42) that Wan refers to? Write ONE word taken from paragraph 9 in each blank below. (3 marks)

- (i) Comic book publishers need a _____ system to sell their products.
- (ii) There are fewer _____ selling on the streets.
- (iii) The number of comic stores is _____.

15. Who or what does 'They' (line 48) refer to?

16. According to paragraph 10, why are there fewer newsstands in Hong Kong?

- A. The newsstands cannot charge higher fees.
 - B. The newsstands cannot stock many comic books.
 - C. The government stopped issuing licenses to newsstands.
 - D. The publishers do not use the newsstands to promote their comics.
- A B C D

17. With reference to paragraph 11, state ONE reason why Alan Wan prefers working in the Mainland.

18. Below are the events in the life of Alan Wan described in paragraphs 8 and 12. Write a word or phrase taken from paragraphs 8 and 12 in each blank below. Your answers must be grammatically correct. One has been done for you as an example. (4 marks)

1970s



NOW

He started (i) _____ in Hong Kong.
He later took up different (ii) _____ in the comic book industry.
He founded <u>the Hong Kong Comics and Animation Federation (example)</u> .
He discovered that (iii) _____ was more profitable than traditional comic books.
He became the (iv) _____ of an animation production company in the Mainland.

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Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

19. What does the writer mean when using the phrase 'stay in tune with' (line 67)?
- A. Comic artists adjusting to their audiences' preferences.
 - B. The growth of lifestyle comics about girlfriends and boyfriends.
 - C. Old-school Hong Kong comic artists working with Japanese artists.
 - D. The cooperation between local Hong Kong and international comic artists.
- A B C D

20. What does Lam want to show with the example of 'the Kowloon Walled City' (line 72)?

21. What does the writer imply by saying 'he simply shrugs' (line 75)?

22. Based on paragraphs 12-15, what are the predictions of Alan Wan and Lam Cheung Kwan Elphonso about the future of the comic book industry in Hong Kong? Write a word or a phrase in each blank below. Note that the suitable word or phrase may or may not appear in the text. Your answers must be grammatically correct. One has been done for you as an example. (4 marks)

	Alan Wan	Evidence from the text	Elphonso Lam	Evidence from the text
Prediction 1	The industry will be more (i) _____ _____ _____.	People want more content from a range of devices.	Hong Kong artists will not adjust to the evolving readership.	Traditional Hong Kong artists (ii) _____ _____ _____.
Prediction 2	Hong Kong artists will engage in world-wide competition.	The world is more (iii) _____ _____ because of faster communication.	The Hong Kong comic industry will remain <i>unappreciated</i> <i>(example)</i> _____.	People in Hong Kong only care about (iv) _____ _____ _____.

23. What is the purpose of the writer? He is writing _____ the readers about the comic book industry.
- A. to warn
 - B. to advise
 - C. to inform
 - D. to reassure
- A B C D

END OF PART A

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

PART B1

Read Texts 2-3 and answer questions 24-42 in the Question-Answer Book for Part B1.

Text 2

<p>JOB A Social Media Marketing Assistant STAR RESORT HOTELS</p> <p>Job Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works closely with local and regional sales and marketing teams for social media needs (Instagram, Facebook, WeChat, etc.) <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diploma in Marketing / Communications / Hospitality• Experience in advertising / design• Ability to work well in small teams• Knowledge of other countries / cultures	<p>JOB C Assistant to Chef NANONG CHAIN OF RESTAURANTS</p> <p>Good opportunity to advance because the chef will teach assistants</p> <p>Job Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assists chef in daily operations• Needs to work long shifts <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience with a wide variety of cooking techniques• Quick learner who enjoys challenges
<p>JOB B IT Assistant Technician (6-month contract) KING'S GROUP</p> <p>Job Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides IT support for office and warehouse management software• Trains users on property management software <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diploma or above in Computer Science or related disciplines• Experience in IT support, preferably gained from property management industry	<p>JOB D Multi-media Designer MONOSHINE CLOTHES GROUP</p> <p>Job Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides creative designs for the image of the retail brand• Creates graphics for social media accounts <p>Job Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Higher diploma or above in Graphic Design or related disciplines• Understanding of brand image and design

Text 3

Graduate job seeking: The rise of the 'slasher'

- 1 [1] A slasher refers to a new group of workers. The slasher, also called a portfolio careerist, has become increasingly popular. It describes one person with a number of jobs and the slash (/) is used in the job title, for example, someone who is an X/Y/Z or a journalist/web editor/advertiser.
- 5 [2] In the past, an employee was traditionally expected to put in 40 hours per week (plus the other 40 hours of unpaid overtime!) into a single career. However, the unstable job market has led many individuals to take on various jobs at the same time, as a form of safe-keeping their own incomes.
- [3] Self-proclaimed slasher Jane Mellon wrote, 'This approach might appeal to anyone who has lost their job. When our entire income comes from a single position, losing it would drop us from comfort into terror. For a slasher with multiple sources of income, losing one job would not be a disaster if she still has five more.'
- 10 [4] There is even better news, as it may be easier to recover from losing a job as a slasher. Not only does the slasher not need to hunt for a new full-time permanent job, she also has a stronger and wider skillset, which is reinforced by strong time management and organisation skills. After all, to balance multiple jobs, you require excellent self-motivation and exceptional planning ability.
- 15 [5] For the modern graduate, the idea that you can become a slasher can be very attractive. Alex McDonald graduated with a degree in computer science and has juggled multiple roles since then. He said, 'I've been a web developer, a games tester, a web designer and an occasional writer. It makes me more employable in a tough market.'

20 [6] Erin Albert is a widely recognised expert on the portfolio career, having not only recently written a new book on the subject but also acted as a role-model to slashers everywhere. Erin is a pharmacist, an assistant professor, an entrepreneur, a writer, and a law student: does this make her any less employable? 'I'm often asked about career development, especially during the current economic crisis,' she said. 'I regularly challenge students to think about why they can't both take an immediate job offer they are not sure about and work towards their dream job.'

25 [7] In the UK, entrepreneurs are a typical example of a group that expects to spread their careers across multiple areas. This inspired Emma Jones, founder of Enterprise Nation and Bitsy, to publish *Working Five to Nine: How to Start a Business in Your Spare Time*. Emma said, 'I thought it was the very best way to start a business as you keep risks low and give yourself time to build confidence and cash flow. I wanted to tell these stories and offer a guide to others wanting to follow the same path. The title *Working Five to Nine* came to me when I was sitting at my computer working on my own business during a 5pm to 9am shift!'

30 [8] Unfortunately, even accounting for the positives of being a slasher, some attitudes have been slow to change. Headhunters and recruiters are often disapproving of individuals who have worked multiple jobs at the same time, while some are even disbelieving. Recruiter Norman Lamp said to a slasher client, 'There is no way someone your age could have such a wide variety of skills.' Many recruiters do not believe that these skills are deeply ingrained in the young people with slasher careers.

35 [9] It is no surprise that a greater number of people under 30 are choosing to have portfolio careers. For the typical Millennial, the typical behaviour patterns of immediate pleasure seeking, multitasking and low boredom thresholds (typically all summed into the phrase 'instant on') make slashing particularly appealing. Many large organisations may mistakenly see these characteristics as weaknesses in the younger generation. They should see them as strengths.

[10] For the foreseeable future, the advantages of being a slasher will, in most cases, continue to outweigh the negatives. And as the younger generation grow up, the slasher philosophy will no doubt continue to grow.

COMMENTS

40 craftsman - 8 April 2022 10:45

Interesting article on 'slashers' – portfolio working is nothing new but it is interesting that this type of career is on the rise. The article seems to ignore creative talents like artists and craftsmen who have complex and diverse careers. Far from seeing this as a negative, craftsmen like myself believe that portfolio working is a very fulfilling way to work.

45 girlartisan - 8 April 2022 13:29

I'm a slasher because there really is no choice. There just aren't any jobs out there even for those who have graduated with high grades. Since I graduated from my degree, I have been a portfolio worker because of this and they don't even consider my slasher experience.

bellaneil - 9 April 2022 16:23

50 I am a Millennial struggling to make a living and I feel patronised by this article. I am doing this to survive! Just giving it a cool name doesn't make my situation cool.

END OF READING PASSAGES

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *HKDSE Question Papers* booklet published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.

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**HKDSE 2022
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 1 PART B1
QUESTION-ANSWER BOOK**

B1
EASY SECTION

Write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label in the space provided on this page.
Read Texts 2-3 and answer questions 24-42. (42 marks)

Text 2

24. The text is taken from...

- A. a letter.
- B. a report.
- C. a manual.
- D. a newspaper.

A	B	C	D
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

25. Read the following questions and choose the appropriate job based on the information in Text 2. (4 marks)

	JOB A	JOB B	JOB C	JOB D
(i) Which job requires an understanding of other countries?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) Which job includes on-the-job training?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) Which job requires long working hours?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iv) Which job is temporary?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. Put a tick (✓) in the box that matches the skills / knowledge needed for each job. You may tick more than one box for each job. (4 marks)

	Design skills	Knowledge of property management	Social media skills	Kitchen skills
JOB A				
JOB B				
JOB C				
JOB D				

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.



Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

27. Find a word or phrase in JOB C which shows that there are chances for promotion.

28. Which job requires creativity? Support your answer with evidence taken from Text 2.

JOB

Evidence: _____

Text 3

29. What does 'portfolio careerist' (line 1) mean?

30. According to paragraph 2, why have people started to take on various jobs?

31. Who does 'she' (line 9) refer to?

32. In paragraph 5, Alex McDonald states that becoming a slasher can be attractive because _____

33. What does 'challenge' (line 20) mean in Erin Albert's quote 'I regularly challenge students...' (lines 20-21)?

- A. to ask
- B. to disagree
- C. to test someone's ability
- D. to invite someone to compete

A B C D

34. What activity does 'Working Five to Nine' (line 23) in the book title refer to?

35. In paragraph 7, what are the reasons Emma Jones gives for her way of starting a business? Write a word or phrase taken from the paragraph in each blank below. (3 marks)

- She wanted to lower the (i) _____.
- She wanted more (ii) _____ to increase her (iii) _____.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

36. With reference to paragraph 8, give a reason to explain why some are not willing to hire slashers.

37. Who or what does 'them' (line 36) refer to?

38. The following statements are possible reasons for the increasing number of slashers. With reference to the paragraphs stated below, are the statements mentioned or NOT mentioned in the paragraphs? (4 marks)

	Paragraph	Statement	Mentioned	NOT mentioned
(i)	6	Young people's dream jobs are similar.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii)	7	Slashers prefer short working hours.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii)	9	Young people are easily bored.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iv)	9	Large companies have rigid job duties.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

39. Use the information in Text 3 to match the people (A-E) mentioned in the text with one of the following comments. Write the letter of the person in the blank below the comment. One person is NOT used. Each letter can be used ONCE only. One comment does NOT match with any person in the text and you should choose 'F. Not stated'. (5 marks)

A. Emma Jones	B. Alex McDonald	C. Jane Mellon
D. Erin Albert	E. Norman Lamp	F. Not stated

Take a job now but keep your options open.

You are too young to have those skills.

I have the skills to do many types of jobs.

Slashers fit easily into a corporate job.

Slashing helps you build your own business.

(i) _____ (ii) _____ (iii) _____ (iv) _____ (v) _____

40. According to paragraphs 1-10, what is the writer's attitude towards the trend of the slasher?

- A. critical
 - B. neutral
 - C. doubtful
 - D. supportive
- A B C D

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

41. Who or what does 'they' (line 47) refer to?

42. Based on the information in the Comments section (lines 39-51), decide whether each of the three people agrees or disagrees with the statement 'I like being a slasher' by blackening the appropriate circle. Complete the main points made by the people in the Comments section by writing a word or phrase taken from lines 40-51 in the blanks below. (9 marks)

	Opinion towards the statement: 'I like being a slasher'		Main Point
	Agrees	Disagrees	
craftsman	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	This article does not mention (i) _____. Working as a slasher is (ii) _____.
girlartisan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	I am a portfolio worker as I have (iii) _____. My (iv) _____ is not considered.
bellaneil	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Millennials are being (v) _____ by the writer. Young people have to (vi) _____.

END OF PART B1

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Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

PART B2

Read Text 4 and answer questions 43-65 in the Question-Answer Book for Part B2.

Text 4

Ethical concerns mount as AI takes bigger decision-making role in more industries

- 1 [1] For decades, artificial intelligence, or AI, has been the engine of high-level STEM research. Most consumers became aware of the technology's power and potential through internet platforms like Google and Facebook, and retailer Amazon. Today, AI is essential across a vast array of industries, including health care, banking, retail, and manufacturing.
- 5 [2] But its game-changing promise to do things like improve efficiency, bring down costs, and accelerate research and development has been tempered of late with worries that these complex systems may do more societal harm than economic good. With virtually no government regulations, private companies use AI software to make determinations about health and medicine, employment and creditworthiness without having to answer for how they are ensuring that their programmes are not encoded with structural biases.
- 10 [3] Joseph Fuller, professor of management practice, explains that in employment, AI software sorts and processes resumes and analyses job interviewees' voice and facial expressions. The result is the growth of what's known as 'hybrid' jobs. Rather than replacing employees, AI takes on important technical tasks of their work, freeing workers to focus on other responsibilities, making them more productive and therefore more valuable to employers.
- 15 [4] While Big Business already has a huge head start, small businesses could also potentially be transformed by the implementation of AI, says Karen Mills, who ran the U.S. Small Business Administration from 2009 to 2013. This could have major implications for the national economy over the long haul as most people in the U.S. are employed by small businesses. Rather than hampering small businesses, the technology could give their owners detailed new insights into sales trends, cash flow, inventory, ordering, and other financial information in real time. This will help them understand how the business is doing and where problem areas might loom without having to
- 20 hire any other experts in finance, accounting, or human resources. The owner doesn't need to become a financial expert, or spend hours labouring over the books every week, Mills said.

What are the ethical concerns of using AI in decision-making?

- 25 [5] Michael Sandel, professor of political philosophy, states that the widespread use of AI presents ethical concerns for society: privacy, discrimination, and perhaps the deepest, most difficult philosophical question of the era, the role of human judgement. "Debates about privacy safeguards and about how to overcome bias in algorithmic decision-making in employment practices are by now familiar," said Sandel, referring to intentional and unintentional prejudices of programme developers and those built into datasets used to train the software. "But we've not yet wrapped our minds around the hardest question: Can smart machines out-think us, or are certain elements of human judgement indispensable in deciding some of the most important things in life?"
- 30 [6] Panic over AI suddenly injecting bias into everyday life *en masse* is overstated, says Fuller. First, the business world and the workplace, rife with human decision-making, have always been riddled with 'all sorts' of biases that prevent people from making deals or landing contracts and jobs. "When calibrated carefully and deployed thoughtfully, resume-screening software allows a wider pool of applicants to be considered than could be done otherwise, and should minimise the potential for favouritism that comes with human gatekeepers," Fuller said.
- 35 Sandel disagrees. "AI not only replicates human biases, it confers on these biases a kind of scientific credibility. It makes it seem that these predictions and judgments have an objective status," he said.
- 40 [7] "In the world of lending, algorithm-driven decisions do have a potential dark side," Mills said. As machines learn from the data sets they're fed, chances are 'pretty high' they may replicate many of the banking industry's past failings that resulted in discrimination against minority groups. "If we are not thoughtful and careful, we are going to end up with redlining again," she said. ("A highly regulated industry, banks are legally on the hook if the algorithms they use to evaluate loan applications end up inappropriately discriminating against classes of consumers, so those 'at the top levels' in the field are 'very focused' right now on this issue," said Mills, who closely studies the rapid changes in financial technology, or 'fintech'. "They really don't want to discriminate. They want to give access to capital to the most creditworthy borrowers," she said. "That's good business for them,
- 45 too."

How much government regulation is needed?

- 50 [8] Given its power and expected ubiquity, some argue that the use of AI should be tightly regulated. But there's little consensus on how that should be done and who should make the rules. Thus far, companies that develop or use AI systems largely self-police, relying on existing laws and market forces, like negative reactions from consumers and shareholders as well as the demands of the highly-prized AI technical talents to keep them in line.
- [9] "There's no businessperson on the planet at an enterprise of any size who isn't concerned about this and trying to reflect on what's going to be politically, legally, regulatorily, or ethically acceptable," said Fuller. "Firms already consider their own potential liability from misuse before a product launch, but it's not realistic to expect companies to anticipate and prevent every possible unintended consequence of their products," he said.
- 55 [10] Jason Furman, professor of the practice of economic policy, agrees that government regulators need "a much better technical understanding of artificial intelligence to do that job well," but says they could do it. "Existing transportation regulations could handle potential AI issues in autonomous vehicles rather than setting up another AI group in the existing government system," he said. Enforcing AI regulation within industries by industry-specific panels who are more knowledgeable about the overarching technology could make oversight of AI more thorough. "I think governments should've started this long ago, but better late than never," said Furman, who
- 60 thinks there needs to be a 'greater sense of urgency' to make governments act.
- [11] "Business leaders can't have it both ways, refusing responsibility for AI's harmful consequences while also fighting government oversight," Sandel maintains. "The current situation is these big tech companies are neither self-regulating, nor subject to adequate government regulation. I think there needs to be more of both," he said,
- 65 later adding: "We can't assume that market forces by themselves will sort it out. That's a mistake, as we've seen with Facebook and other tech giants."
- [12] "Companies have to think seriously about the ethical dimensions of what they're doing and we, as US citizens, have to educate ourselves about tech and its social and ethical implications – not only to decide what the regulations should be, but also to decide what role we want big tech and social media to play in our lives," said
- 70 Sandel. Doing that will require a major educational intervention in higher education. He said, "we have to enable all students to learn enough about tech and about the ethical implications of new technologies so that when they are running companies or when they are acting as citizens, they will be able to ensure that technology serves human purposes rather than undermines a decent civic life."

END OF READING PASSAGE

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *HKDSE Question Papers* booklet published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.

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**HKDSE 2022
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 1 PART B2
QUESTION-ANSWER BOOK**

B2
DIFFICULT SECTION

Write your Candidate Number and stick a barcode label in the space provided on this page.
Read Text 4 and answer questions 43-65. (42 marks)

Text 4

43. Based on the information in paragraph 1, complete the summary by writing a word or phrase taken from paragraph 1 in each blank below. Your answers must be grammatically correct. (3 marks)

Artificial intelligence has been driving (i) _____ for many years now. The growth of Google and Facebook has ensured that (ii) _____ are also conscious of the power of AI in the internet. Industries such as health care, banking, retail, and manufacturing find AI (iii) _____ to their core functions.

44. In paragraph 1, what metaphor is used to describe AI?

45. Complete this sentence based on the information in paragraph 3.
'Hybrid' jobs (line 12) are performed by both _____.

46. Find a word or phrase in paragraph 4 which can be replaced by 'for an extended period of time'.

47. What does Mills mean when she says 'a huge head start' (line 14)?
A. Small businesses are hampered by AI.
B. Big Business has been using AI for a long time.
C. AI can benefit both Big Business and small businesses.
D. Big Business has more resources than small businesses.

A B C D

48. What does 'This' (line 16) refer to?

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.



49. Complete the following sentences using the information in paragraph 4. Your answers must be grammatically correct. (3 marks)

Small businesses are important to the U.S. economy because they (i) _____

_____.

AI benefits small businesses as the financial information it generates comes (ii) _____

_____ and requires (iii) _____

_____.

50. Complete the table using the information in paragraph 5. Your answers must be grammatically correct. (5 marks)

Ethical Concern	Debate
Privacy	whether (i) _____ _____
(ii) _____ _____	whether (iii) _____ _____
(iv) _____ _____	whether (v) _____ _____

51. What is the cause of the 'Panic' (line 30)?

People's perception that AI _____.

52. What does Sandel imply by saying that AI seems to give an 'objective status' (line 36)?

_____.

53. Based on the information in paragraph 6, complete the following sentence by writing a word or phrase taken from paragraph 6 in each blank below. Your answers must be grammatically correct. (3 marks)

AI software used for (i) _____ needs to be accurately set so that

(ii) _____ can be reduced and more potential applicants would be

considered instead of being eliminated by (iii) _____.

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Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

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54. Mills mentions being 'very focused' (line 42). (2 marks)

Who are very focused? (i) _____

Why is this important? (ii) _____

55. Find a phrase in paragraph 7 which has a similar meaning to 'being responsible under the law'.

56. According to paragraph 7, the use of AI may have benefits as well as cause harm. Complete the table below with a word or phrase taken from paragraph 7 in each blank. Your answers must be grammatically correct. (2 marks)

Issue	Using AI to screen (i) _____ of individuals
Anticipated benefit	Banks could give loans to (ii) _____.
Possible harm caused	There could be prejudices.

57. Find a word in paragraph 8 which expresses 'the state of being everywhere'.

58. Complete the following sentence using the information in paragraph 8.

Currently, it is the voices of _____

expressing their opinions that prevent companies from abusing their use of AI.

59. What does 'keep them in line' (line 50) mean?

- A. to stop AI systems from self-policing
- B. to form a consensus on how to use AI
- C. to ensure businesses use AI responsibly
- D. to meet the demand for AI technical talent

- A B C D

60. According to paragraph 9, what are some issues of concern for a business using AI? Tick (✓) the appropriate box(es). You may tick (✓) more than one box.

Liability from misuse	
The size of an enterprise	
Unintended consequences	
Lack of business personnel	
Success of a product launch	

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.

61. In paragraph 10, Furman provides an example of how government should regulate AI. Complete the following table summarising Furman’s example using the information in paragraph 10. Your answers must be grammatically correct. (3 marks)

Government Department	Issue	Solution
The (i) _____ Department	Regulating AI (ii) _____ _____ _____.	(iii) _____ _____ _____ can work within the department.

62. What is the cause of ‘The current situation’ (line 63)?

63. According to paragraph 12, what is the ‘educational intervention’ (line 70) required?

Educational institutions must address _____

_____.

64. Use the information in Text 4 to match each of the following comments with a person (A-D) mentioned in the text. A person may be used more than once. Write the letter of person on the line next to the comments. One comment is NOT mentioned by any of the four people and you should choose ‘E. Not stated’. (6 marks)

A. Jason Furman	B. Joseph Fuller	C. Karen Mills	D. Michael Sandel	E. Not stated
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Comment	Person
Programmers may unintentionally be adding their own personal biases in the data sets used to train AI software.	(i) _____
The internet providers are promoting the use of AI for the government regulators.	(ii) _____
AI makes recruitment and hiring more efficient for companies.	(iii) _____
People should be better informed when making decisions on how much AI should be used in their daily lives.	(iv) _____
Governments should include AI experts in existing departments to regulate these areas.	(v) _____
If banks use AI software to investigate creditworthiness, they may repeat the past practices that were prejudiced and discriminatory.	(vi) _____

65. What is the author’s view towards the use of AI in this text?

- A. ironic
- B. neutral
- C. critical
- D. supportive

A B C D

END OF PART B2

Answers written in the margins will not be marked.