

2009 HKCEE Paper 1A and 1B Initial Analysis

Theme: School and teachers

Paper 1A

The first part is a matching exercise. Candidates are required to match relevant answers to the given questions.

There should be no difficulty if you know the words like blinds (百葉窗;窗簾) and CIT (Computer and Information Technology).

Then you were asked to write questions for two answers.

Q: Do you want to be famous? / Would you like to be famous?

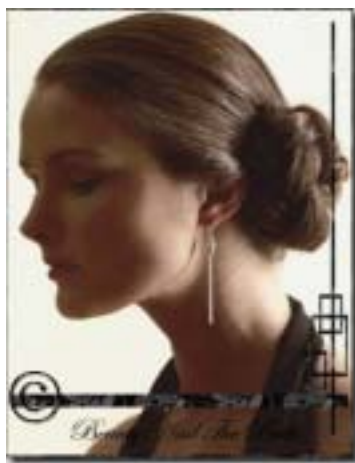
A: I wouldn't like to be famous ...

Q: What would you like to be? / What would you like to work as?

A: A commercial airline pilot because...

The second part was about a writer, Mary Li, writing about her favourite teacher, Mrs Vadan Symon in a magazine article.

One tricky question asks about what a CHIGNON hairstyle is. And it is ...



A **chignon**, pronounced "sheen-yon," is a popular type of bun style. The word "chignon" comes from the French phrase "chignon du cou," which means nape of the neck. Chignons are generally achieved by pinning the hair into a knot at the nape of the neck, but there are many different variations of the style. They are frequently worn for special occasions, like weddings and formal dances, but the basic chignon is also worn for everyday casual wear.

Another tricky question is that you have to distinguish between surname / family name / last name (Symon) and first name / given name (Vadan). Also, the full name of her husband is PATRICK SYMON.

You should be familiar with what a 'marital status' is and the organization of names as we covered these in class in our Paper 1B formats and Paper 2 classes – some common names were listed in your Paper 2 Survival Kit too as we knew that you needed to know this kind of information!

A reminder of Marital Status:

Married 已婚的,有配偶的

Widowed 寡居的;成寡婦的

Single 單身的

Divorced 離婚的

The third part was about an experiment, as part of a BBC documentary, about teenagers teaching primary pupils.

You're so lucky as it's similar to our F5 Mock Exam Task 1 question and we gave you related practices in your Exercise books! So you should have the right organizational skills and correct language to tackle this question! So this was easy, huh!?

The aim was to look at what the education system would be like if students themselves were in charge of the class.

These teenagers have to teach **TWELVE**-year-old pupils for **THREE** weeks during **SUMMER BREAK**. The pupils are **AS OPTIMISTIC AS** the teenagers.

What the professionals learn from the teenagers are:

1. do not **LECTURE** students
2. take more **RISKS**
3. make students **RESPONSIBLE** for their learning

Overall Paper 1A comments:
Most of the phrases and concepts have been covered in class. There are no completely new question types. However, as we mentioned before, there are changes to the instructions. For instance, you have to indicate the **PARAGRAPH NUMBER** for True / False / Not Stated Questions.
You didn't forget to do so, did you?

Task 2

1. Write a **LETTER TO THE EDITOR** of a newspaper about whether you think learning at home or at school is better.

Type of writing (題材):	Argumentative
Format (體裁):	Letter to Editor
Language (語氣):	Formal

So this is why we taught you all how to write a well-structured argumentative writing! And once again, **CE TIPS** saves the day! We gave you the vocabulary for comparisons between schools and other learning habits along with our **notes about parent-student relationships and parental guidance** so you have the right vocabulary and ideas to answer these questions easily.

Content

Arguing for learning at home	Arguing for learning at school
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents know their children the best Rich parents can hire the best teachers Parents/home tutors can spend one-on-one time with the children More time to develop other interests Parents/home tutors can ensure the work is pitched to the child’s level Do not have to worry about the impact of class sizes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal requirement to attend school for P1 – S3 in HK Well-founded and all-round curriculum More resources, e.g. library and social worker Interpersonal development, e.g. work in teams and make friends Curriculum information more up-to-date

Accuracy

- Make sure you write in correct grammatical sentences.
- Higher marks if you use complex sentence structure, e.g. conditional sentences, correctly.

Organization

- A brief introduction
- At least 1 paragraph for opposing view to make your letter objective
- Write 2 or more reasons to support your arguments
- State only 1 point in each paragraph
- Use of cohesive devices, such as ‘first of all’ / ‘furthermore’

Genre

- Dear **E**ditor
- Yours truly, / Yours faithfully,
- Chris Wong
- You should be aware that the readers are the audience, not the Editor alone.
- You should start off by setting a context for writing e.g. ‘I am writing with reference to the article / letter by XXX entitled “XXX” dated XXX.
- You should end the letter by saying something like ‘I hope your readers will have a better understanding of why learning at school/home is more effective than learning at home/school’.

A few words from Miss Tann

Dear ELers,

Well, I am sure you all feel better after reading my tips and advice. I'm sure that my dear ELers will have answered the questions correctly. These papers would not have been a big problem for ALL ELers as all necessary phrases were covered in our Writing Essentials, Vocabulary from News, Notes and the 2 Survival Kits. Oh! Don't forget the CE TIPS class and Mock Exam! Also, accurate grammar and good organization will help your grades too!

Don't worry. I've just mentioned the best way to go about each question – you still could have done well using a slightly different but clearly organized way. As the good news is that in your Paper 1B there won't be a right or wrong answer so as long as you supported your points logically and clearly, you'll be ok!

Please get plenty of rest and make sure you are well prepared for tomorrow's Listening and Integrated Skills exam.

Please remember to bring 1 RADIO, at least 2 SETS OF BATTERIES and 1 pair of EARPHONES! DO NOT HESITATE TO GO TO THE SPECIAL ROOM IF THE RECEPTION IS POOR! YOU WILL NOT BE MARKED DOWN IF YOU HAVE BROUGHT THESE 3 THINGS!

Watch this space as we may give you **more details later** on these papers and our **initial analysis for Paper 2!**

Remember ELers, what is done is done! So now put your best foot forward and try your best in your other exams.

Also, DO sign up and practise your Oral with us. We are always here for you!

Love,

Miss Tann