

JC 2 Preliminary Examination 2016

GENERAL PAPER

H1 8807/01

Paper 1

13 September 2016

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials: Writing Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, PDG, GP tutor's name and question number on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

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

Answer **one** question.

Note that up to **20** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions carry equal marks.

Answer **one** question.

Answers should be between 500 and 800 words in length.

- 1 How desirable is city living?
- 2 How far does education in your society prepare students for their careers?
- 3 In times of economic hardship, should a country still invest in the Arts?
- 4 'The global demand for food can only be met at the expense of the environment.' To what extent do you agree?
- 5 Is it ever justifiable for the State to intervene in business practices?
- 6 Discuss the importance of museums.
- 7 Should there be any age restrictions for employment?
- 8 'Technology has corrupted the beauty of language.' Is this a fair comment?
- 9 To what extent should the government be blamed for poverty within a country?
- 10 Consider the view that female athletes are less recognised than male athletes in professional sports.
- 11 'Countries will benefit more from cooperation than competition today.' How far do you agree?
- 12 'Graciousness is of little value today.' How far is this true for your society?

JC 2 Preliminary Examination 2016

GENERAL PAPER

8807/02

PAPER 2

13 September 2016

INSERT

1 hour 30 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Insert contains the passage for Paper 2.

Claire Choi writes about issues to do with similarities and differences in the world.

- 1 Human civilisation is made up of communities, which, as the term suggests, are formed based on commonalities. Some communities form due to a common language or locality; others grow out of a need to fight a common cause or enemy. The earliest human communities grew out of survival instincts – out in the wild, one was either the predator or the prey. It is thus unsurprising that they quickly grasped the concept of safety in numbers and banded together for mutual protection. The flip side of this was that an outsider would be treated with suspicion at best and aggression at worst. Such distinctions between “us” and “them”, born out of our natural differences, have to be negotiated carefully in order for humanity to continue to progress collectively. 5
- 2 Before we identify ourselves as a part of bigger communities defined by aspects such as race, religion and nation, the first community many of us belong to is our family, where we are typically linked by blood, physical appearance, or name. In many cultures, family names are commonly used, which are passed down to descendants or bestowed on those who marry or are adopted into a family. The family name is so fundamental that, in some communities, entire clans have grown out of that one connection. For centuries, Scottish clans, formed based on family names, were essential for one’s sustenance and safety, and chieftains led their clans in skirmishes against rival clans. Yet, despite such enmity, the clans rebelled against the English several times over a few centuries, united by national pride and religion (albeit only while the rebellions lasted). As society progresses, this coming together as bigger communities has become a recurring pattern as the enemies we encounter are seemingly more formidable and varied. The root of this behaviour is our basic human instinct to identify those who are different as possible threats and to therefore be on our guard against them. This instinct is but one of the many motivations for our often less than desirable conduct towards people unlike us. 10
- 3 Psychologists offer several explanations as to why we behave poorly towards people who are different. One of the most commonly cited reasons is prejudice, which has led us to think that those unlike us are inferior. We also fear that they may fragment society with their beliefs or bring physical harm upon us. In the wake of mass migration from African and Middle Eastern countries, many European communities have experienced tension over conflicting cultural beliefs. In some cases, we are afraid we have to make allowances, or worse, sacrifices for others, which we see as a precursor to them taking our power away. Even when our actions are well-intentioned, they may be harmful nonetheless. These actions could be due to our inquisitiveness about how others differ from us or our overzealousness in attempts to include them in our community. 15
- 4 These reasons manifest themselves in varied and deleterious ways. Our prejudice may lead us to avoid those we deem different. If this is not possible, we interact with them only when necessary and often in a condescending manner. We tend to taunt them and even stoop to finger-pointing, especially when things go wrong. There are also times when our naivety unwittingly causes offence through tactless questions on the aspects in which others are different from us. We also cause them distress by thrusting them into the spotlight and highlighting these differences in public. Furthermore, when we give them special treatment, we may end up embarrassing them instead. For instance, many disabled people have expressed dismay at being treated like they constantly need additional attention or help to get things done. Regardless of our intentions, it seems that no matter what we do, we can do no right. Additionally, on a systemic level, we may deprive them of opportunities to progress and more abjectly, deny them their rights. Government-led discrimination is actually more common than we would care to admit. We have seen this with Apartheid in South Africa, where there was outright deprivation of certain groups’ rights. Sometimes, government-led discrimination can even come under the guise of noble intentions, as in the case of the Stolen Generations of Aboriginal and Islander children in Australia, where the children were forcefully removed from their families for supposedly better opportunities. Such ‘kindness’ ultimately gave rise to and justified many instances of neglect and abuse. What is worse, some of us are not only complicit in such deplorable behaviour, we may also choose to condone and even encourage blatant acts of discrimination that we observe in society. 20

- 5 Still, it will be unfair to assume that everyone is callous towards those who are different: inasmuch as our history records acts of discrimination, it is also full of records of altruism towards those unlike us and of us combating the subjugation of those who are different from us. Often, when we have overcome our initial mutual apprehension, we will find that we are not very different in essence, and in fact have the same needs and desires. Many of us learn to accept the differences, sometimes even redefining our communities to be more inclusive. We have seen formerly gender-specific occupations become gender neutral. Even royalty have descended from their plush ivory tower to work side by side with the average citizen, while previously homogeneous societies have turned multicultural. These trends have been observed in countries such as the Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden, which pride themselves on their increasing inclusivity. Embracing diversity is now the zeitgeist for some. 55 60
- 6 Such a shift to greater inclusivity is made possible by global mobility, which gives us firsthand encounters with a wider range of cultures. Concurrently, the ubiquitous nature of the Internet broadens our perspectives through the spread of diverse views. Global businesses further encourage greater inclusivity by allowing people from all around the world to enjoy similar products. As such, you probably just watched the same online video using the same smartphone model as someone halfway across the globe, while munching on the same brand of chocolate and wearing a jersey of the same football team. These days, it is not just cities but entire countries where people engage in similar activities as the rest of the world. In many places, you are likely to find sushi bars next to pizza parlours, yoga classes offered alongside Zumba lessons, and people discussing the latest Hollywood blockbuster and Korean drama. These similarities not only encourage integration of different communities within the same locality, but also help newcomers feel at ease in a new yet familiar environment. Even our problems have become similar, with climate change, flagging economies, and poverty being among the most urgent of our global concerns. It seems we are not so different after all and our similar experiences could meaningfully enhance mutual empathy. 65 70 75
- 7 Lamentably, our increasing homogeneity has not necessarily led to decreasing discrimination but has instead intensified the need to set ourselves apart from others in some cases. If our lifestyles are so uniform that our identities are not distinct from others', it really is not much of an identity at all. As such, some find themselves reasserting distinguishable traits, which may be the cause of the renewed emphasis on nationality and race in many parts of the world, perpetuating widespread discrimination. In the United States, for instance, there was significant objection to President Obama's proposal to offer citizenship to Latin American immigrants, even though they had lived in and contributed to the country for decades. Ironically, for all the great strides America has made, it remains stuck in its battle with discrimination. 80 85
- 8 The human race prides itself on its many stellar achievements, yet we have hardly advanced in our treatment of people who are different. Granted, some of us are more progressive, revelling in the kaleidoscopic possibilities of differences and embracing one and all. Yet, too many of us remain regressive, wallowing in the expected doom arising from differences and persecuting those who are unlike us. If we still behave like the earliest humans, we cannot in all honesty claim to be civilised. Differences will continue to exist among us, and as John F. Kennedy said, "If we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity." 90 95

Candidate's Name	PDG	GP Tutor's Name
	/15	

JC 2 Preliminary Examination 2016

GENERAL PAPER

8807/02

Paper 2

13 September 2016

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, PDG and GP tutor's name on all the work you hand in.
 Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
 Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.

The Insert contains the passage for comprehension.

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

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

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

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

Read the passage 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.

1 Explain what the author means by "with suspicion at best" (lines 6-7).

[2]

2 Why has the author placed brackets around the comment in lines 18-19?

[2]

3 Why has the author placed the word "kindness" in inverted commas (line 50)?

[1]

4 How does the author justify her use of the word "unfair" (line 54)? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

[2]

5 What does the phrase “plush ivory tower” (line 61) suggest about the royalty?

[1]

6 What explanations does the author offer for the “shift to greater inclusivity” (lines 65)?
Use your own words as far as possible.

[2]

7 What does the author mean by “distinguishable traits” (line 83), and what has led to the need to reassert them? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

[2]

8 **Using your own words as far as possible**, explain the irony in lines 88-89.

[2]

9 In paragraph 8, what contrasts does the author make between people who are “more progressive” and those who “remain regressive” in their approach towards people who are different? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

[2]

10 Which idea in paragraph 1 is supported by the quotation from John F. Kennedy (lines 96-97)?

[1]

11 Using material from paragraphs 3-4 only (lines 24-53), summarise what the author has to say about why people behave poorly towards those who are unlike them and how they act towards those who are different.

Write your summary in **no more than 120 words**, not counting the opening words which are printed below. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

Firstly, people behave poorly towards those who are unlike them because _____

[8]

For
Examiner's
Use

JUNIOR COLLEGE
JC2 Preliminary Examination 2016
Paper 2 Answer Scheme

1. Explain what the author means by "with suspicion at best" (lines 6-7). [2]

From passage	Suggested answer
an outsider would be treated with suspicion at best	We treat outsiders with distrust even in the nicest of circumstances.

2. Why has the author placed brackets around the comment in lines 18-19? [2]

From passage	Suggested answer
Yet, despite such enmity, the clans rebelled against the English several times over a few centuries, united by national pride and religion (albeit only while the rebellions lasted).	The author wishes to show how the unity of the clans did not last long although the clans could unite themselves to fight the English.

3. Why has the author placed the word "kindness" in inverted commas (line 50)? [1]

From passage	Suggested answer
Such 'kindness' ultimately gave rise to and justified many instances of neglect and abuse.	She wants to show that such actions are not really kind and are actually cruel to the children.

4. How does the author justify her use of the word "unfair" (line 54)? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From passage	Suggested answer
Still, it will be unfair to assume that everyone is callous towards those who are different: inasmuch as our history records acts of discrimination, it is also full of records of altruism towards those unlike us and of us combating the subjugation of those who are different from us.	There are actually many accounts of charity towards people who are different and people fight for these people.

5. What does the phrase "plush ivory tower" (line 61) suggest about the royalty? [1]

From passage	Suggested answer
Even royalty have descended from their plush ivory tower to work side by side with the average citizen	They live in comfortable conditions, far removed from the average person.

6. What explanations does the author offer for the "shift to greater inclusivity" (lines 65)? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From passage	Suggested answer
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Such a shift to greater inclusivity is made possible by global mobility, which gives us firsthand encounters with a wider range of cultures. Concurrently, the ubiquitous nature of the Internet broadens our perspectives through the spread of diverse views. Global businesses further encourage greater inclusivity by allowing people from all around the world to enjoy similar products.	International travel allows us direct contact with a greater variety of cultures. The widely available Internet makes us more open-minded through exposure to different opinions. International companies offer international access to identical goods.
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7. What does the author mean by “distinguishable traits” (line 83), and what has led to the need to reassert them? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From passage	Suggested answer
distinguishable traits	They are differentiating attributes.
Our increasing homogeneity has however not necessarily led to decreasing discrimination but has instead intensified the need to set ourselves apart from others in some cases. If our lifestyles are so uniform that our identities are not distinct from others', it really is not much of an identity at all.	Some people want to reassert these traits because they feel that our growing similarities are eroding their individuality and they want to re-establish their uniqueness.

8. **Using your own words as far as possible**, explain the irony in lines 88-89. [2]

From passage	Suggested answer
Ironically, for all the great strides America has made, it remains stuck in its battle with discrimination.	With the numerous progress America has made, it should be able to similarly tackle the problem of discrimination. In reality, it has not made progress in resolving the issue.

9. In paragraph 8, what contrasts does the author make between people who are “more progressive” and those who “remain regressive” in their approach towards people who are different? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From passage	Suggested answer
The human race prides itself on its many stellar achievements, yet we have hardly advanced in our treatment of people who are different. Granted, some of us are more progressive, revelling in the kaleidoscopic possibilities of differences and embracing one and all. Yet, too many of us remain regressive, wallowing in the expected doom arising from differences and persecuting those who are unlike us. If we still behave like the earliest humans, we cannot in all honesty claim to be civilised. Differences will continue to exist among us, and as John F. Kennedy said, “If we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity.”	The more progressive delight in the prospects offered by diversity and accept everybody while the regressive are preoccupied by the catastrophe differences could bring and discriminate against those who are different.

10. Which idea in paragraph 1 is supported by the quotation from John F. Kennedy (lines 96-97)?

[1]

From passage	Suggested answer
Differences will continue to exist among us, and as John F. Kennedy said, "If we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity."	It is the idea in the last sentence.

SUMMARY

11. Using material from paragraphs 3-4 only (lines 24-53), summarise what the author has to say about why people behave poorly towards those who are unlike them and how they act towards those who are different.

Write your summary in **no more than 120 words**, not counting the opening words which are printed below. **Use your own words as far as possible.** [8]

Firstly, people behave poorly towards those who are unlike them because ...

From passage	Suggested answer
One of the most commonly cited reasons is prejudice, which has led us to think that those unlike us are inferior.	(1) ...of bias
We also fear that they may fragment society with their beliefs	(2) They are also afraid the different views may break society up
or bring physical harm upon us.	(3) or these people may assault them
In some cases, we are afraid we have to make allowances,	(4) Sometimes, they fear having to compromise
or worse, sacrifices for others,	(5) or even give up something for them,
which we see as a precursor to them taking our power away.	(6) losing their rule.
Our prejudice may lead us to avoid those we deem different.	(7) As such, people stay away from those unlike them
If this is not possible, we interact with them only when necessary	(8) or deal with them only when needed,
and often in a condescending manner.	(9) usually in an arrogant way.
We tend to taunt them	(10) People may mock
and even stoop to finger-pointing	(11) and even push blame onto those who are different.
our naivety unwittingly causes offence through tactless questions	(12) Sometimes, people upset others by asking inconsiderate questions,
We also cause them distress by thrusting them into the spotlight and highlighting these differences in public.	(13) by drawing attention to their differences
when we give them special treatment, we may end up embarrassing them instead.	(14) or by showing favouritism, making them feel self-conscious.
on a systemic level, we may deprive them of opportunities to progress	(15) They may prevent those who are different from advancing,

and more abjectly, deny them their rights.	(16) or worse, take away their rights.
Such 'kindness' ultimately gave rise to and justified many instances of neglect	(17) Sometimes, these people are denied attention
and abuse.	(18) and even mistreated
What is worse...we may also choose to condone	(19) More appallingly, some do nothing to stop such behaviour,
and even encourage blatant acts of discrimination that we observe in society.	(20) and even incite outright discrimination.