



HWA CHONG INSTITUTION
JC2 Preliminary Exam
Higher 1

CANDIDATE
NAME

CT GROUP

12A/S

GP TUTOR

CENTRE
NUMBER

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INDEX
NUMBER

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General Paper

8807/02

Paper 2

4 September 2013

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Insert

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- 1) Write your **name**, **CT class** and **GP tutor's name** clearly in the spaces at the top of this page.
- 2) Write in dark blue or black pen in the spaces provided in the answer booklet.
- 3) Do not use paper clips, highlighters, correction fluid or tape.
- 4) Answer **ALL** questions.
- 5) You may attach additional pieces of writing paper if necessary.

There are 12 questions in this paper.

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

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

You are reminded of the importance of legible handwriting and good presentation.

Staple the passages to the back of this answer booklet at the end of the examination.

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

Passage 1
HOLY MATRIMONY

- 1 Admittedly, different cultures have treated marriage differently. Some viewed it as an essentially economic investment by means of arranged marriages tied to dowries, others saw marriage primarily as a political relationship through which they could forge family alliances. But all these variations still embraced the fundamental, immutable essence of marriage as a public, lifelong partnership between one man and one woman for the purpose of begetting and raising children. The so-called enlightened and progressive lobbies 5 who now want to either abolish or mutilate the institution beyond recognition are not only blind to the time-honoured and tested merits of marriage, but also in grave danger of pushing us off a moral precipice that will cast society into a maelstrom of decadence and disarray.
- 2 Marriage is not essentially about validating two people who love each other. Marriage primarily serves a much broader social function – the legal union between one man and one woman ~~is likely to result in a~~ 10 permanent household with progeny. Since all governments are deeply interested in the stabilization and propagation of society, they naturally promote and regulate this specific type of relationship above all others. To put it simply, marriage is not about adults; it is about children. And if marriage revolves around procreation, it makes perfect biological sense to restrict it to one man and one woman. As such, claiming the “right to marry whomever I love” ignores the true emphasis – indeed fundamental purpose – of 15 marriage.
- 3 Above all, marriage is a public institution, and any redefinition of it would have severe societal repercussions. First, it would emasculate the institution itself. After same-sex marriage was legislated in Spain in 2005, marriage rates plummeted. The same happened in the Netherlands. Redefining marriage obscures its meaning and dilutes its purpose, thereby discouraging people from taking it seriously. 20 Moreover, if we redefine marriage as simply a loving, romantic union between committed adults, what principled reason do we have for rejecting polygamist or merely polyamorous (multiple-person) relationships as marriages? This isn’t just scaremongering or a hypothetical slippery slope – such after-effects have already been observed in countries that have legalized same-sex marriage. For example, in Brazil and the Netherlands, three-way relationships were recently granted the full rights of marriage by the courts. What 25 next?
- 4 Social science research has confirmed the practical experience of countless societies over the millennia. By all measurable indicators, children flourish when raised by their married biological parents. The principle of traditional marriage has always been to provide a well-anchored home for the rearing of children. Marriage has proven to be the most effective way to transform a man into a responsible husband and father, and a 30 woman into a nurturing wife and mother, ensuring that a child will bond with his biological parents. Research has shown that co-habitation does not give a child the same psychological security. Moreover, the married parent-children relationship is the best way to guarantee that children will be provided with the basics of life and be raised in ways that are more likely to mould them into model citizens. Married people and their children also tend to be happier, wealthier and more productive members of society, benefiting 35 them as individuals as well as the nation as a whole.
- 5 In addition, despite a whole generation of a movement that has misled women into thinking that marriage is not necessarily in their interest, the evidence proves otherwise: married women are less prone to chronic illness than single women. And the life expectancy of married women is considerably higher than single 40 women. Traditional marriage also serves as a civilizing influence on men. Notably, single men have almost six times the probability of being incarcerated as married men, and men who live with their biological children are more involved in neighbourhood improvement projects and charitable organizations, more attached and attuned to their own siblings, adult children, and aging parents.
- 6 Marriage is the ideal culmination of a loving relationship and natural desire for a family. It is not only a venerable and sacred institution but also one of the keystones of a stable and morally upright society. As 45 such, we all face a crucial challenge to preserve, as well as a compelling responsibility to promote; such a tried and tested, time-honoured institution. That is exactly why the government should encourage healthy traditional marriages, not open the flood gates to a welter of misguided alternatives that would result in our society being inundated by moral chaos.

Algernon Tobias

Passage 2
WHOLLY ACRIMONY

- 1 Every spring, the dreaded envelopes start to arrive. Ornate, embossed letters adorning expensive cream-coloured paper requesting "the pleasure of your company" summon us to attend another meaningless ritual – another wedding ceremony. Apart from weddings being commercialised, exorbitant, formulaic, and often fraught rites of passage, marriage itself has also become a broken social institution in dire need of reform. The dwindling numbers who continue to self-righteously trumpet the virtues of 'traditional' marriage are 5 finding it increasingly difficult to disguise the fact that they are simply moral scolds with Victorian values. Extremely uncomfortable with gender equality and positively squirming at the very notion of gay rights, they vehemently oppose divorce and same-sex marriage, fighting the good fight under the ragged banner of moral rectitude and social stability. But they are losing the war – and they know it.
- 2 Marriage is an institution that endorses and perpetuates archaic gender stereotypes, forcing women to 10 conform to the expectations of a patriarchal society. Traditionally, married women were merely domestic

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