INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write your Candidate Number, Centre Number and Seat Number in the boxes provided on this cover AND on the Answer Sheet.

2. Read carefully the instructions on the Answer Sheet and insert the information required (including the Subject Code) in the spaces provided.

3. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS: this Question-Answer Book contains the questions for Parts 1 and 2.

4. Answers to Questions 1–50 should be marked on the Answer Sheet. Answers to Questions 51–95 should be written in this Question-Answer Book.

5. For multiple-choice questions, mark only ONE answer to each question. Two or more answers will score NO MARKS.

6. Marks will not be deducted for wrong answers.

7. Questions in Part 1 (Comprehension) carry two marks each while those in Part 2 (Usage) carry one mark each.

8. You are advised to spend approximately 40 minutes on Part 1 (Comprehension) and approximately 50 minutes on Part 2 (Usage).

9. Supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number on each sheet and fasten them with string inside this Question-Answer Book.

This Question-Answer Book is the property of the Hong Kong Examinations Authority and should be RETURNED to the HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY after the examination.
Travels of a dotcom whizz-kid

Keith Peiris insists he is just a ‘normal kid’ but this is far from the truth. The 12-year-old heads one of the leading web-design companies in Canada and has met people like the Chinese Prime Minister Zhu Rong-ji and Hong Kong Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa.

Last week he was among 350 people accompanying Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. He was in constant demand during his three-day stay in Hong Kong but after a fax to the Canadian Consulate requesting a meeting, I received a call from Keith’s father, Deepal. ‘You want to interview my son? Come tomorrow at 8 am – you’ll have half an hour.’

The next day I’m waiting for him at the Hong Kong Productivity Council. The room is empty, but it will soon be full of youngsters determined to meet their new idol. It is 8.10 am and Keith still hasn’t arrived. Suddenly a group of business people step out of a lift. But still no sign of the young Peiris. Then I catch a glimpse of a small figure among them. Dressed in a black business suit and red tie, he looks a little like a schoolboy on his way to a wedding banquet.

He nods at me, but shyly lowers his head as he climbs into a chair. He looks a little nervous. At 1.5 metres, his legs dangle from the chair. He really is just another kid, I decide. But as soon as I start firing questions at him, I change my mind. The child vanishes and the self-assured business person takes over. He may have the voice of a 12-year-old, but he answers questions like an entrepreneur. ‘Call me Keith,’ he offers softly. ‘I feel uneasy if people call me mister.’ Before me is a youngster as comfortable with interview techniques as most of his age are with surfing the Net. While they click on their favourite sites, Keith is earning a six-figure salary designing them.

Although his age draws the media spotlight, it brings with it a built-in prejudice. Some clients change their minds when they discover he still hasn’t hit his teens. ‘It’s happened many times. People don’t think they can trust a 12-year-old boy, but the problem fades away as soon as they see the quality of my work. I am better than 80 per cent of my competitors,’ Keith says.

All of Keith’s employees are at least twice his age. ‘My staff consider me an adult,’ he says. ‘I am the boss; they don’t mind taking orders from me.’ His father asked job applicants if they had a problem working for a boy, adding that several top people from major web-design companies were eager to work under his son.

(Adapted from an article by Sherry Lee in the South China Morning Post, February 23, 2001.)
1. The main idea of paragraph 1 is how …… Keith Peiris is.
   A. unusual
   B. popular
   C. important
   D. famous

2. In lines 8 and 9, ‘He was in constant demand’ means ……
   A. Keith demanded to meet with the Canadian Prime Minister.
   B. Keith’s father wanted him to meet a lot of people.
   C. Keith was always accompanied by 350 people.
   D. Keith had many interviews and meetings.

3. In line 16, the ‘youngsters’ are ……
   A. other young business people.
   B. young employees of the Hong Kong Productivity Council.
   C. fans of Keith Peiris.
   D. other newspaper reporters.

4. In line 32, Keith is ‘comfortable with interview techniques’ means ……
   A. he is good at answering interviewers’ questions.
   B. he enjoys interviewing young people.
   C. young people like interviewing him.
   D. he makes interviewers feel relaxed.

5. In line 33, ‘most’ refers to ……
   A. techniques.
   B. youngsters.
   C. questions.
   D. entrepreneurs.

6. According to paragraphs 3 and 4, the interviewer is ……
   A. disappointed by Keith.
   B. impressed by Keith.
   C. envious of Keith.
   D. happy for Keith.

7. In line 40, ‘the problem’ refers to ……
   A. the media spotlight.
   B. the number of Keith’s competitors.
   C. the quality of Keith’s work.
   D. the fact that Keith hasn’t hit his teens.

8. Keith Peiris seems …… people’s prejudices.
   A. amused by
   B. angry about
   C. surprised by
   D. unconcerned about

9. Paragraph 6 is about how ……
   A. strict Keith is.
   B. many top people work with Keith.
   C. young Keith is.
   D. well adults work with Keith.

10. According to paragraph 7, Keith is not amused because ……
    A. he does not like being interviewed.
    B. he has not been having fun in Hong Kong.
    C. the producer treats him like a child.
    D. the cameraman shouts at him.

11. In line 61, ‘But the business world has its price’ means Keith ……
    A. does not have time to do his homework.
    B. cannot do things that other children do.
    C. has to spend a lot of money on his company.
    D. receives a lot of money for his contracts.

12. Lines 69–73 show that ……
    A. Keith’s friends have the same hobbies as he does.
    B. Keith is similar to other children.
    C. Keith has more friends than other children of his age.
    D. Keith prefers relaxing with his friends.

13. In line 78, ‘the final decision’ refers to decisions about ……
    A. Keith’s happiness.
    B. Keith’s father’s role in the company.
    C. anything to do with Keith’s web-design company.
    D. things that Keith and his father disagree about.

14. The final paragraph mentions ……
    1. how successful Keith’s company is.
    2. how successful Keith’s trip to Hong Kong is.
    3. how successful the Internet is.
    4. Keith’s future plans for his company.
    A. 1, 2 and 4
    B. 1, 3 and 4
    C. 2 and 3
    D. 3 and 4

15. We know from the article that Keith is successful as a business person because ……
    1. he earns a lot of money.
    2. he is better than all of his competitors.
    3. people from other companies want to work with him.
    4. his company is getting bigger.
    A. 1 and 2
    B. 1, 2 and 4
    C. 1, 3 and 4
    D. 2 and 3

16. Which sections of a newspaper or magazine might this article appear in?
    1. Business
    2. Computers
    3. Young people
    4. Politics
    5. Entertainment
    A. 1, 2 and 3
    B. 1, 2 and 4
    C. 2, 3 and 5
    D. 3, 4 and 5
A Hot Topic

Fever, which is associated with a wide range of illnesses, has usually been regarded as a threat to health. However, no one has actually proved that fever is dangerous. This fact attracted the attention of Matthew J. Kluger. Suspecting that fever might not be as harmful as had been supposed, Kluger set up a series of experiments with lizards.

What Kluger and his team did in their first experiment was very simple. They took some lizards and placed them in a sand-box, one end of which was heated to 44°C, while the other was at room temperature. The lizards were fitted with a device to measure body temperature. It was found that the lizards moved from one part of the box to the other in order to maintain a constant temperature of about 38°C. Having shown that normal lizards regulate their own temperature, Kluger, in a second experiment, then set out to show that lizards, like most other animals, develop fever in response to infection. This was done by injecting test animals with bacteria that were known to cause disease. As the team expected, the infected lizards remained longer in the heated portion of the box, until they had raised their body temperatures to two or three degrees above normal. In other words, the sick lizards gave themselves fever.

In a third experiment, the team investigated the effect of temperature on the survival of the lizards. One group of infected lizards was given a fever-suppressing drug. The other group was given no drug and ran a fever: that is to say, they deliberately maintained a higher temperature for four or five days before seeking a cooler environment. The results were impressive. Of those which raised their body temperature, all but one survived. Of those given the fever-suppressing drug, more than half died. Kluger reinforced these findings with a further experiment, in which sick lizards were kept in a series of boxes with controlled temperatures. The majority of those kept at fever temperatures lived, while those kept at normal temperatures died. Similar results have since been produced in other animals. For example, infected fish swim to warmer water, and will die if not allowed to do so.

An important conclusion can be drawn from these experiments. As Kluger points out, lizards have been on earth for hundreds of millions of years. It is reasonable to suppose that a response that is so old has been kept by nature for some definite purpose. It would appear, therefore, that fever does not make disease worse. Rather it is part of the mechanism by which infection is suppressed. Recent studies in biochemistry and physiology tend to confirm this.

Despite Kluger’s research, doctors are unlikely to change their methods. Most doctors still believe that restoring temperature to normal is one of their main tasks. In some cases they may be right. Fever increases the heart beat, and for patients with heart disease, this can be dangerous. Yet the research suggests there is a strong possibility that using drugs to suppress fever may actually hinder a patient’s recovery. Even doctors’ habit of taking patients’ temperatures all the time may be unnecessary. Temperatures used to be carefully watched because of the belief that high fever alone caused brain damage, but experts now say there is no known case of this happening except in illnesses that are known to attack the brain anyway. Doctors, however, continue to take temperatures. Concern for patients’ comfort is another reason why doctors will continue to treat fever, because most doctors see it as an important part of their job to make patients feel better.
17. According to paragraph 1, what attracted Kluger’s attention was the fact that ……
   A. fever was a threat to health.
   B. fever was connected with a great variety of illnesses.
   C. lizards were suitable for experiments on fever.
   D. the harmfulness of fever had not been proved.

18. In his experiments, Kluger was hoping to prove that fever ……
   A. is dangerous to health.
   B. is not harmful to lizards.
   C. is not necessarily bad.
   D. is a serious problem.

19. In the first experiment, lizards were ……
   A. kept in a sand-box at room temperature.
   B. maintained at an environmental temperature of 38°C.
   C. placed in an environment with different temperatures.
   D. fitted with a device to regulate their body temperature.

20. The first experiment showed that lizards ……
   A. regulated their body temperature by moving to a warmer or cooler place.
   B. became sick if they stayed too long in the heated part of the box.
   C. could only survive at an environmental temperature of 38°C.
   D. became sick when placed with other sick lizards.

21. In the second experiment, the lizards got sick because the team ……
   A. allowed them to develop fever.
   B. injected them with bacteria.
   C. expected them to remain in the hot area.
   D. raised their body temperatures.

22. The purpose of the third experiment was to find out ……
   A. if a higher body temperature helps sick lizards survive.
   B. how many days lizards can stand a hot environment.
   C. whether the findings of the first two experiments were right.
   D. how the team members were affected by high temperatures.

23. In line 31, ‘impressive’ is closest in meaning to ……
   A. remarkable.
   B. difficult to interpret.
   C. inconclusive.
   D. very complicated.

24. In line 34, what do ‘these findings’ refer to?
   A. Infected lizards will not recover unless they are placed in a cooler environment.
   B. Sick lizards tend to get better if they can raise their body temperature.
   C. Lizards kept at a constantly high environmental temperature tend to die.
   D. Infected fish die if they cannot swim to warmer water.

25. Studies in biochemistry and physiology support the view that ……
   A. lizards have been on earth for a long time.
   B. fever is a very old response.
   C. fever makes disease far worse.
   D. fever helps to get rid of infection.

26. In line 61, ‘this’ refers to ……
   A. illnesses being known to attack the brain.
   B. drugs suppressing fever.
   C. fever hindering a patient’s recovery.
   D. fever causing brain damage.

27. Kluger’s research ……
   A. will have an immediate effect on doctors.
   B. is unlikely to change what doctors do.
   C. will reduce the death rate of lizards.
   D. shows why fever is a threat to health.

28. Which of the following is the best summary of this article?
   A. Drugs that work on humans can also affect lizards.
   B. Lizards and humans are not as different as people have assumed.
   C. Fever may play an important part in curing disease.
   D. Doctors’ main concern is the comfort of their patients.
Sleeping keeps you awake

Imagine that you are sitting at your desk and your teacher is something to the class. It is two o’clock on a hot and humid afternoon. You are still full lunch and you are finding it very difficult to concentrate on the lesson. Your eyes cannot focus on the board and they are starting to feel very heavy. your head hits the desk and you are asleep. Does this sound familiar?

Experts say that sleepy around two or three o’clock in the afternoon is quite common. how hard people try, they just cannot stay awake. Do you feel like this? you do, experts advise you to put your head in a comfortable position on your desk, take off your shoes, close your eyes and to sleep. If your teacher comes over, just explain that you will get done when you wake up. If he is speechless, tell him that recent research that a quick sleep during the day is good for you and that your work as a result.

is the research? Researchers from Japan’s Centre for Mental Health studied the sleeping of 24 workers. Twelve lucky workers to take a nap in the afternoon and the other twelve continue working. The researchers then some tests on all the workers to find out how alert and efficient they were. The results showed that the people who had been allowed to sleep scored about 10 per cent higher on the tests than those who had not been allowed any sleep at all. The researchers continued their tests for several hours and discovered that the ‘sleepers’ performed better in tests done two or three hours later. was found that sleeping position affected the workers’ performance as well. People who slept sitting up were more clear-headed and became alert more quickly than those who lay down. The workers who lay down got too comfortable and slept more deeply. As a result, it was several hours before they were completely alert again.

the next time you feel sleepy in class, see if your teacher will let you put your head on your desk and have a quick sleep. If this is not possible, just get someone to shine a bright light in your face!
29. A. talking  
B. discussing  
C. speaking  
D. explaining

30. A. during  
B. from  
C. at  
D. by

31. A. All the time  
B. At once  
C. All of a sudden  
D. At the moment

32. A. deep  
B. well  
C. fast  
D. much

33. A. feel  
B. to have felt  
C. having felt  
D. feeling

34. A. Despite  
B. No matter  
C. Regardless  
D. No wonder

35. A. still  
B. once  
C. ever  
D. even

36. A. If  
B. Whether  
C. As  
D. Whatever

37. A. fall  
B. drop  
C. go  
D. allow

38. A. much more  
B. many more  
C. some  
D. many

39. A. tells  
B. shows  
C. informs  
D. analyses

40. A. has improved  
B. improved  
C. is being improved  
D. will improve

41. A. How  
B. Which  
C. Why  
D. What

42. A. methods  
B. ways  
C. habits  
D. systems

43. A. are being told  
B. would be told  
C. were told  
D. will be told

44. A. had to  
B. ought to  
C. can  
D. might

45. A. did  
B. made  
C. put  
D. had

46. A. on  
B. with  
C. to  
D. for

47. A. still  
B. just  
C. however  
D. nonetheless

48. A. They  
B. It  
C. This  
D. There

49. A. moreover  
B. however  
C. nevertheless  
D. therefore

50. A. So  
B. Moreover  
C. In contrast  
D. As a result
Fill in each blank in the article below with ONE word which best completes the meaning. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first three have been done for you as examples. (21 marks)

Schools – Clean and Green

As students, you can help the planet by (a) [making] your classroom and school more environmentally (b) [friendly]. Here are some ideas to (c) [help] you get started:

Start a programme to save the trees

• Try not to (51) use paper. Use the whole sheet and both (52) sides of the paper for writing and drawing.
• Don’t forget that pencils are made of wood as well. Try (53) to sharpen them too often so that they last longer.
• (54) When you use paper towels to dry your hands in the washroom, don’t use more than you need.
How many other ways can you think (55) to help save trees?

Start a programme to save energy

• Remember to turn off the lights and fans if you’re the last person to leave the room.
• Do you use an electric hand dryer in the washroom (56) of paper towels? If you (57) use it, don’t use it for longer than necessary.

Start a programme to conserve water

• When you’ve finished washing your hands, make sure that you turn the (58) off tightly (59) that the water doesn’t drip.
• Stick a notice on the washroom door to remind your classmates to save water.
Start a programme to recycle

- Start collecting used paper so that it can be recycled.
- You can arrange to have recycling bins delivered to your school and encourage people to put their plastic bottles, aluminium cans and paper inside ____(60)____.
- If you buy take-away food at lunchtime, ____(61)____ using styrofoam boxes as these are very bad ____(62)____ the environment. ____(63)____ your own plastic lunch box to the restaurant and ask for your food to be put into this instead.
- Try to persuade your friends to do the ____(64)____.
- How many clothes do you ____(65)____ away every year? Are they ____(66)____ poor condition or are you just bored ____(67)____ them? You and your friends could collect all your old clothes and have a clothes market at school. ____(68)____ the lunch-break or after school, you could sell the clothes that you no ____(69)____ want and buy ‘new’ ones from your friends. ____(70)____ money that you earn could be ____(71)____ to a charity.

To learn more about protecting the environment, go to these other websites:

http://www.recycle.com
http://www.environment.hk
Match the headlines, A – M, with the short news reports. Put the appropriate letters in the spaces provided. You can use each letter ONCE only. Three of the headlines need not be used. One has been done for you as an example.  
(9 marks)

A. Start writing  
B. Official jailed  
C. Aid arrives  
D. Drugs seized  
E. Set free  
F. Gang attack  
G. Triad concern  
H. Stolen mail found  
I. Indian tourism falls  
J. Language problem  
K. Violent end  
L. Strong thieves  
M. Lucky escape

72. ________  
Three men have been released from jail after serving 18 years for murder. A court ruled yesterday that they had been wrongly convicted.

76. ________  
Rescue teams rushed food and medicine to 4,000 people whose homes were destroyed in an earthquake in Northern India. Eight French tourists were injured.

73. ________  
Two million pages of documents may have to be translated into Chinese if a businessman is not granted legal aid for his defence in a fraud trial.

77. ________  
Guangdong security officials remain worried about crime and warn against infiltration by Hong Kong gangs.

74. ________  
A bomb exploded in a busy office block in London yesterday. Although there were over a hundred people inside, everyone managed to get out unhurt.

78. ________  
Six men wielding hammers smashed two glass doors and windows and poured black paint into a cafe in Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei.

75. ________  
Stone-throwing and a heavy police presence marked the final day of campaigning for Indonesia’s general election. A German newspaper reporter was seriously injured.

80. ________  
A $1.7 million concrete pump, weighing 9.5 tons, has been stolen from a North Point construction site.

a. ________  
Prisoners’ mail will no longer be censored in most jails under new proposals to relax rules. Inmates will also be allowed to send unlimited letters.

Marks:  

You have just finished writing a letter to a friend. You need to proofread it and correct the mistakes without changing the meaning. Do not make unnecessary changes or changes to punctuation. No line has more than one mistake and some lines are correct. If you think there is no mistake in a line, put a (✓) at the end of the line (example a).
Corrections must be done as follows:

**Extra word:** delete the extra word with a ‘✗’ (example b).

**Wrong word:** underline the wrong word and write the correct word above it (example c).

**Missing word:** mark the position of the missing word with a ‘∧’ and write the missing word above it (example d).

(15 marks)

Dear Sandy,

Thanks very much your latest letter. I’m so glad to hear that you’ve managed to organising a holiday in Hong Kong this summer. I’m really looking forward to seeing you and your family again and have already started planning that we can do together.

Unfortunately, we won’t be able to come and meet you at the airport on the 24th. However, you shouldn’t have any problems about getting your flat. As you knew, the airport is on Lantau. It’s very big but it’s very easy to find your way around. The arrivals hall is in the ground floor. If you want something to eat or drink when you arrive, you can find several cafes in the arrivals hall or you can take up the lift to the first floor where there have some larger restaurants.

I’d recommend taking the train to Hong Kong Island. Remember get a return ticket. This will still be being valid two weeks later when you go home and it’s cheaper than buying two single tickets. You’re not allowed to take the trolleys onto the train, but the staff very helpful and will help you with your luggage. Ask them if you need help.

The train is very comfortable and the views of over Lantau are wonderful.

Make sure you get off at Hong Kong Station, which is the final stop. When you’ve gone through the ticket machine, don’t forget to put your ticket in somewhere safe.

The easiest way to get to our flat from there is by taxi. It shouldn’t be cost more than $50.

If you have any problems, just call me on my mobile phone. Have a safe journey.

Love,

Chris

Markers Use Only

| a | 81 |
| b | 82 |
| c | 83 |
| d | 84 |
| 85 |
| 86 |
| 87 |
| 88 |
| 89 |
| 90 |
| 91 |
| 92 |
| 93 |
| 94 |
| 95 |

Marks:

TOTAL MARKS:

END OF PAPER
2002 HKCE English Language (Syllabus B) Paper 2

Key


27. B (60) 32. C (29) 37. C (51) 42. C (63) 47. A (65)
29. D (33) 34. B (62) 39. B (74) 44. A (71) 49. D (64)

Open cloze

Spelling must be correct. Small or capital letters are acceptable. Only one word per blank.

51. waste / overuse
52. sides
53. not
54. If / When / Should
55. of / up
56. instead
57. do
58. tap(s) / faucet(s)
59. so / and
60. them
61. stop / avoid
62. for
63. Take / Bring
64. same / above
65. throw
66. in
67. with / wearing
68. During / In
69. longer
70. The / Any / All
71. donated / given

Matching

If a letter is used more than once, count those answers wrong.

72. E 76. C
73. J 77. G
74. M 78. F
75. K 79. D
80. L
Editing

Spelling must be correct. Small or capital letters are acceptable. Only one correction per line. Only one word for each correction.

81. much ∧ your

organize / organise

82. organising

what / things / activities

83. that / planning ∧ that / planning ∧ that

on

84. in

85. ×

are / they

86. there have / there have

to

87. ∧ get

88. being

are / is

89. staff ∧ very helpful

90. √

91. × / over / all

92. √

93. ×

94. × / cost

95. √

Notes:

1. Figures in brackets indicate the percentages of candidates choosing the correct answers.

2. For items 51-71 & 81-95, there were a number of alternate correct answers. Only the more common ones are included in this key.