

For immediate release

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**The Second HKDSE Liberal Studies Examination held today
Modern Education LS Tutor comments,
"Candidates are not afraid of political questions."**

(Hong Kong, 10 April 2013) The second Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Liberal Studies (LS) Examination was held today. Similar to the requirement of LS in the past, candidates should have social political knowledge and insight. The examination involved Paper 1 and Paper 2, each consists of 3 questions. Candidates need to answer all 3 questions in Paper 1 and they need to select 1 out of 3 questions in Paper 2. The content of this year's examination consists of topics such as "Charges of solid waste", "Globesity", "Uplift of Feminism", "Continuous Development", as well as "June 4 Massacre" and "Legislative Council is filibustering". **Dr. Costa Chan, LS tutor of Modern Education** who has years of experience in teaching LS, gave a preliminary analysis of the examination.

30% of candidates are not afraid of LS Examination topic on "June 4 Massacre"

Although critics said that the Government exercises self-censorship over sensitive political issues, the HKDSE Liberal Studies Examination continued to include them as exam questions. In the second question of Paper 2, candidates need to express their view as a citizen on 3 pictures regarding the Candlelight Vigil for June 4 Massacre, Sichuan Earthquake Donation and the issue of the Diaoyu Islands.

Dr. Costa Chan appreciated the valorous approach of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA). It is because there may be some opposing wordings and points of view when candidates commented on the candlelight vigil marking the June 4 Massacre. However, the examination inspectors estimated that 30% of candidates selected this question which showed that candidates are not afraid of political topics. For the "LS Mock" questions from Dr. Costa Chan on 17 February, it covered the wording "enhance national identity" which is the same as those in the examination of this year. Some candidates even described the topic as it has been studied in advance. In addition, there is an article analyzing national identity in the "LS Argument" with Chinese and English provided for candidates.

Practice Paper offers a challenge to candidates

The first question on Paper 1 is related to Earth Day and Waist Day. Dr. Costa Chan said the HKEAA benefits candidates since this examination topic is very similar to the Practice Paper topic of Globesity published by HKEAA in 2010.

Owing to the familiar question, the candidates are required to quote proper examples in order to receive high grades. It is proper to quote examples of daily life. However, it will be more impressive to quote examples of international topics. Dr. Costa Chan mentioned that her teaching team had provided students with an example of the London Olympic Games in the “LS Argument”. Sponsors of the game included unhealthy brands such as McDonald’s and Coca Cola. The topic indicated the increasing impact of “Fast Food Culture” on the world.

On the other hand, candidates should pay attention to the information in order to avoid traps. For instance, it appears as though there is no relationship between obesity and Africa by only reading the topic, the topic consists of information showing that the obesity rate in Africa is increasing. Thus, candidates should provide proper description.

Disputed topic on filibustering to distinguish student’s critical thinking

The second question of Paper 1 is about Legislative Council filibustering. Most of the candidates may focus on criticizing the filibustering as being affected by the mainstream media discussion. As a result, they overlooked the reason and meaning of the action. Candidates are required to analyze the theory of legislative procedure behind the filibustering.

In order to get high grades, the HKEAA required candidates to provide conceptualized answers by understanding and utilizing key ideas. From the “LS Essence” provided by Dr. Costa Chan, there are enough key ideas for students.

About Dr. Costa Chan

Dr. Costa Chan is the only Liberal Studies (LS) tutor in Hong Kong to be awarded a doctoral degree in Education for her study on the “HKDSE Liberal Studies Examination”. Dr. Costa has enormous experience in teaching LS and she is a renowned icon in LS education. The number of students in Dr. Costa’s HKDSE LS summer courses and conventional courses has been the highest in Hong Kong for four consecutive years, and her courses are widely recognized. The distinguished results of Dr. Costa’s students have been solid proof of her teaching quality.



About Modern Education Group Limited

Modern Education is one of the major chain education service providers in Hong Kong and the only company listed on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange in the industry. The Group offers a wide range of education programmes and services consisting of primary and secondary school tutoring services, English language training and test preparation courses, secondary day school education, overseas studies consultation services and other bridge programmes and services leading to overseas higher education. In recent years, leveraging the soft power of Hong Kong, the Group principally develops English education and test preparation courses with English as the medium of instruction and examination language. At the same time, the Group offers international courses for students in the PRC, and has launched international higher secondary education programmes at the top secondary schools of 3 cities in Guangdong Province. We expect to expand its coverage to 10 cities in the coming 3 years. The Group has established a strategic partnership agreement with Shenzhen Yiwen Book IMP & EXP Co. and M Dream Inworld Limited. The three companies officially announced their co-operation to jointly explore opportunities in the PRC e-book market and e-learning service market. Also, the Group has announced the acquisition of Full Profit Hong Kong Development Limited to further expand business in Hong Kong child education market. Additional information on Modern Education can be found at www.moderneducationgroup.com.

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