S2 Life and Society Practice Paper: Personal Growth and Self-management, Family and Interpersonal Relationships, School and Group Life, Community and Civic Responsibility, Hong Kong Economy and Consumption, Resources and Sustainable Development

S2 | Life and Society | Time: 70 minutes | Total: 100 marks | 24 questions

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Part A - Personal Growth and Self-management (16 marks)

4 marks each; show the steps in calculations and answer explanation questions in points.

1. In a 24-hour day Ming sleeps 8.5 hours, attends school 6.5 hours and travels 1.25 hours. Find his committed time and the time he can use freely each day. [4]

Answer: Answer: committed time = 8.5 + 6.5 + 1.25 = 16.25 hours; free time = 24 - 16.25 = 7.75 hours, which can be used for revision, exercise, housework and rest.

2. State what each letter of the SMART goal-setting principle stands for and give one personal example of each. [4]

Answer: Answer: S specific; M measurable; A achievable; R relevant; T time-bound. Example: raise the English dictation mark from 60 to 75 within six weeks, which is specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.

3. List three common sources of stress for teenagers and explain one workable way of coping with each. [4]

Answer: Answer: examinations (split the revision into a staged plan and keep fixed hours); peer relationships (talk to the people involved and seek help from a teacher or social worker); family expectations (explain the difficulty honestly and agree realistic goals together).

4. Mei receives $120 pocket money a week and saves 25 percent of it for 10 weeks. Find the weekly saving and the total saved after 10 weeks. [4]

Answer: Answer: weekly saving = 120 x 25 percent = $30; total after 10 weeks = $30 x 10 = $300.

Part B - Family and Interpersonal Relationships (16 marks)

4 marks each; show the steps in calculations and answer explanation questions in points.

5. The Chan family earns $22000 a month and spends $8800 on rent, $4400 on food, $1100 on transport and $2200 on other items. Find the total spending, the saving and the saving rate. [4]

Answer: Answer: total spending = 8800 + 4400 + 1100 + 2200 = $16500; saving = 22000 - 16500 = $5500; saving rate = 5500 / 22000 = 25 percent.

6. Compare an I-message with a you-message in family communication and give one example of each. [4]

Answer: Answer: an I-message states the speaker's own feeling and need and blames less, for example "I am tired today and would like half an hour of quiet"; a you-message judges the other person and invites defensiveness, for example "you are always so noisy". I-messages reduce conflict.

7. Write down four steps for handling a conflict at home. [4]

Answer: Answer: calm down first; listen to the other side and check that it is understood; identify the real point of disagreement; agree a solution both sides accept and set a time to review it.

8. Explain two effects on a teenager of a change in family roles, such as an elder sibling entering secondary school or a parent changing jobs. [4]

Answer: Answer: more responsibility builds self-care and a sense of duty; a change of atmosphere or income may bring stress, so chores and expectations must be shared out again; early communication turns the pressure into a chance to grow.

Part C - School and Group Life (16 marks)

4 marks each; show the steps in calculations and answer explanation questions in points.

9. A class of 40 students all vote for an activities chairperson. A gets 35 percent, B gets 27.5 percent and the rest go to C. Find the votes of each and say who is elected. [4]

Answer: Answer: A = 40 x 35 percent = 14 votes; B = 40 x 27.5 percent = 11 votes; C = 40 - 14 - 11 = 15 votes. The votes add up to 40 and C has the most, so C is elected.

10. Using a school uniform rule as an example, explain how school rules and student rights can co-exist. [4]

Answer: Answer: rules protect safety and an equal learning environment; students have the right to express views through class meetings, the student union or a teacher; the school should consult students when making or changing rules and explain the reasons and consequences.

11. Explain one positive and one negative effect of peer pressure, with one example of each. [4]

Answer: Answer: positive - classmates studying hard pull you along, for example forming a study group; negative - trying smoking or breaking rules to fit in, for example being pushed to skip a lesson. Refusal skills and choosing friends wisely reduce the harm.

12. Explain two benefits of joining extra-curricular activities or service learning for personal growth. [4]

Answer: Answer: it builds time management and responsibility; improves communication, teamwork and problem solving; and shows community needs, developing empathy and civic awareness.

Part D - Community and Civic Responsibility (17 marks)

Answer according to the marks; show the steps in calculations and answer explanations in points.

13. A housing estate survey interviews 250 residents and 52 percent say a public library should be added. Find the number in favour and the number against. [5]

Answer: Answer: in favour = 250 x 52 percent = 130; against = 250 - 130 = 120; the two add up to 250.

14. State one right enjoyed by Hong Kong residents and one duty they must perform, and explain the link between them. [4]

Answer: Answer: a right such as freedom of speech or the right to education; a duty such as obeying the law or paying tax. Rights and duties support each other: enjoying a right means respecting the rights of others and carrying a share of responsibility for society.

15. Distinguish the roles of a district council and a government department in community affairs, with one example of each. [4]

Answer: Answer: a district council advises the government and voices residents' concerns on local facilities, transport and the environment, for example pressing for a new bus stop; a government department implements and manages, for example the Transport Department assigns routes and the FEHD handles street cleaning.

16. An S2 student does 2.5 hours of voluntary work a week for 32 weeks in a school year. Find the total service hours in the year. [4]

Answer: Answer: total hours = 2.5 x 32 = 80 hours.

Part E - Hong Kong Economy and Consumption (18 marks)

Answer according to the marks; show the steps in calculations and answer explanations in points.

17. The same juice comes in a 750 ml pack at $18.6 and a 1250 ml pack at $27.5. Comparing the price per 100 ml, which is cheaper and by how much? [5]

Answer: Answer: pack A costs 18.6 / 750 x 100 = $2.48 per 100 ml; pack B costs 27.5 / 1250 x 100 = $2.20 per 100 ml. Pack B is cheaper by $0.28 per 100 ml.

18. Using the purchase of a mobile phone, distinguish a need from a want and explain how to make a rational spending decision. [4]

Answer: Answer: a need is a basic condition for living or studying, such as a phone that can go online for homework; a want is desirable but not essential, such as the newest model. A rational decision compares price and functions, matches actual income, and avoids impulse buying and borrowing.

19. A lunch box cost $40 last year and $43 this year. Find the percentage rise in price. [5]

Answer: Answer: increase = 43 - 40 = $3; rise = 3 / 40 x 100 percent = 7.5 percent.

20. State two basic rights of a consumer and two ways of handling an unfair transaction. [4]

Answer: Answer: rights such as accurate information, safe goods of reasonable quality, and the right to complain and claim. Ways to handle it: raise it with the shop and keep the receipt; complain to the Consumer Council or seek help from the relevant regulator or the Small Claims Tribunal.

Part F - Resources and Sustainable Development (17 marks)

Answer according to the marks; show the steps in calculations and answer explanations in points.

21. A family of four uses 380 kWh of electricity a month at $1.2 per kWh. If they cut consumption by 15 percent, find the monthly saving and the new bill. [5]

Answer: Answer: present bill = 380 x 1.2 = $456.0; units saved = 380 x 15 percent = 57 kWh; money saved = 57 x 1.2 = $68.4; new bill = 456.0 - 68.4 = $387.6.

22. State what the three principles reduce, reuse and recycle mean and give one school example of each. [4]

Answer: Answer: reduce - use fewer disposable items, for example bring your own water bottle; reuse - use things again, for example old worksheets as rough paper; recycle - sort waste for recycling, for example put waste paper in the recycling bin.

23. Explain two environmental effects of food waste and suggest one workable way to reduce it at school level. [4]

Answer: Answer: food waste in landfills breaks down into methane, which worsens the greenhouse effect, and it uses scarce landfill space and pollutes land and water. A workable way: run a take-what-you-need or food-waste collection scheme, record daily waste and reward classes that cut it.

24. State the definition of sustainable development and use one everyday example to show how the economic, social and environmental aspects can be balanced. [4]

Answer: Answer: sustainable development meets present needs without harming the ability of future generations to meet theirs. Example: using public transport saves money and time (economic), is accessible to all and promotes equality (social), and cuts carbon emissions per person (environmental).
