

Date: _____

Class: S ____ () Name: _____

Class No.: _____

Read the passage carefully. Base all your answers on information in the passage unless otherwise stated. All answers carry ONE mark each unless otherwise stated.

1. Some paragraphs in the passage are missing. Choose the appropriate paragraphs from the list below to complete the passage. Put the number of the appropriate paragraph for each of the missing paragraphs. (4 marks)

Paragraph 6: C Paragraph 9: E Paragraph 21: B Paragraph 23: D

- (A) Hong Kong parents want their children to be proficient in both Chinese and English languages.
- (B) His gap year did not get off to a good start. He dislocated his kneecap but is now recovering. "I really enjoy working there and I am gaining experience, making money, and enjoying myself. So I can't ask for much more. I am very busy, but I prefer being busy to finding myself at home doing nothing," he says.
- (C) "Taking a gap year was the right decision for me, as I grew more independent over the year. That made the move to Manchester easier," she says.
- (D) Chinese parents tend to feel more secure seeing their children enrolled in university immediately after graduation. With such keen competition in the local system, the idea of a gap year is not popular.
- (E) Sue Gourlay, head of university counselling in the English stream at German Swiss International School, helps students decide what path to take after graduation.

2. The following people have all given advice for students considering taking a gap year.

Give ONE complete sentence for each of the following questions. (16 marks: 1 mark for content & 1 mark for language for each question.) (16 marks)

Emi Ichikawa Ng

*What qualifies her to give advice?

She herself took a gap year.

*What advice has she given?

Students should consider others' views but should make own decisions.

Marie Marchand

*What qualifies her to give advice?

She has been a parenting coach for 15 years and one of her children took a gap year.

*What advice has she given?

Students should have a plan about what they want to do in that year.

Sue Gourlay

*What qualifies her to give advice?

Sue is the head of university counselling (in the English stream of German Swiss International School).

*What advice has she given?

Students should carefully why they want a gap year.

Jean-Pierre

*What qualifies him to give advice?

He took a good year.

*What advice has he given?

Taking a gap year is worthwhile (though students might find it hard getting back to their study).

3. Explain why both Emi and Jean-Pierre believed that their taking a gap year is a right decision. Give your answer in complete sentences. (2 marks) (1 mark for content & 1 mark for language)

Both had their wishes fulfilled.

OR any relevant answer

4. Extended task (12 marks)

You have read this article and you plan to share it with your schoolmates at the morning assembly. Write the speech in about 200 words explaining what a gap year is, what the benefits can be and what students should consider before making the decision. (12 marks: 8 for content/ 2 for genre/ 2 for language accuracy)