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UNIVERSIDADE DE CIÊNCIA E TECNOLOGIA DE MACAU
MACAU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

澳門四高校聯合入學考試（語言科及數學科）

Joint Admission Examination for Macao Four Higher Education Institutions
(Languages and Mathematics)

2026 年試題及參考答案
2026 Examination Paper and Suggested Answer

英文 English

Instructions:

1. **USE AN HB/2B PENCIL** for Multiple Choice questions. Only answers that appear on the Answer Sheet will be scored. Fill in the corresponding circles completely and darkly. If you do not follow the instructions to fill in the circles, NO marks will be scored.
2. **USE BLUE or BLACK BALLPOINT PEN** for Summary and Open-ended Questions (Section 2, Part 3 on pages 11 & 12) and Writing (Section 3, pages 14-15). Write the answers for these two parts on the space provided in the Examination Paper. **Write with clear handwriting.**
3. **Do NOT take this Examination Paper out of the room.** You must return the Examination Paper and the Answer Sheet at the end of the examination.

Section 1 – Language Use (40 marks)

Part A – Vocabulary and grammar in context (15 marks, 1 mark each)

Read the texts below. Choose the most appropriate answers (A, B, C or D) to complete the texts.
Indicate your answers on the Answer Sheet provided.

Everyday conversation at an office:

Tom: Hi Sarah, long time no see!

Sarah: Tom! What a surprise. How have you been?

Tom: Pretty good, thanks. 1 brings you to this office?

Sarah: I'm heading to a meeting with the marketing team. Want to 2 for lunch later?

Tom: I'd love to. My schedule is too 3 today, but maybe later this week.

Sarah: That works for me. Let's meet at noon on Thursday.

Tom: Sounds good. See you then!

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|--------------|
| 1. A. What | B. Why | C. Where | D. When |
| 2. A. out | B. grab up | C. go | D. get |
| 3. A. bored | B. tight | C. free | D. available |

Customer service conversation at hotel reception:

Guest: Good evening. I am trying to get into my room, but the room key card you gave me earlier seems to 4 . I can't open my door.

Receptionist: I understand. My apologies for the trouble. May I have your room number?

Guest: Room 812. What can we do about this?

Receptionist: I'll give you a new key card right away. This happens 5 when key cards get damaged. I'll reset it 6 the system and you can 7 right away.

Guest: Thank you so much.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 4. A. no work | B. be broken | C. not go | D. be broked |
| 5. A. sometimes | B. sometime | C. on time | D. in time |
| 6. A. into | B. without | C. in | D. at |
| 7. A. misuse it | B. fix it | C. check in | D. try again |

Notice to visitors at a library:

The library will be closed this afternoon 8 emergency maintenance work on our heating system. Students who need immediate assistance can speak to Ms. Wong, the 9 member at the information desk.

Sorry for any inconvenience caused. The library will 10 tomorrow morning.

- | | | | |
|----------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 8. A. due to | B. because | C. since | D. as |
| 9. A. desk | B. staff | C. library | D. assistant |
| 10. A. to open | B. opens | C. reopen | D. opening |

Email:

From: HRDept@fashionplus.com
Sent: March 12, 2026
To: SarahLee@email.com
Subject: **Employment offer**

Dear Sarah,

I am pleased to inform you that your application 11. We would like to offer you the position of sales associate in our Taipa store.

As we mentioned during your interview, this part-time role is 15-25 hours weekly, and we 12 forty dollars per hour. We 13 someone for weekend shifts and Thursday evenings.

You 14 have one week of paid training at our main store before working at our Taipa shop. Please confirm by next Tuesday 15 you accept this position.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Michael Chen

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 11. A. was successful | B. accepted | C. is done | D. has won |
| 12. A. give | B. offer | C. award | D. grant |
| 13. A. have need | B. like | C. should like | D. need |
| 14. A. hope | B. want | C. will | D. expect |
| 15. A. whether | B. when | C. weather | D. which |

Part B – Spotting errors in context (15 marks, 1.5 marks each)

Read through the passage to understand its meaning and check whether the underlined items are used accurately. For each underlined item, if it is accurate and appropriate, select “NO CHANGE”. If it is not accurate and/or not appropriate, select the best option from the choices listed.

Indicate your answers on the Answer Sheet provided.

Food delivery: love it or hate it Hello fellow foodies! These days many people like 1 <u>get</u> food delivered instead of cooking or dining out. Food delivery is 2 <u>popular</u> because it's super convenient. Smart phone apps are faster and 3 <u>easy</u> than calling a restaurant. Additionally, apps offer meals and drinks from many different places. Delivery drivers go all over the city 4 <u>in</u> motorcycles picking up and dropping off food orders, while e-payment apps take care of the money. People working in offices that are not close to restaurants can get lunches 5 <u>deliver</u> to their workplaces. Plus, no washing up! Just throw the boxes and chopsticks away after eating. Any problems with food delivery? Yes! People 6 <u>are cooking</u> less often nowadays than ten years ago. Home-cooked food is better for people's health than take-out meals because restaurants add lots of oil and salt to their dishes to make them 7 <u>tasting</u> good. Also, some small restaurants are getting less business nowadays 8 <u>as a result of</u> food delivery apps. Other restaurants 9 <u>have change</u> from dine-in restaurants to take-away only restaurants to cut costs. All restaurants need to pay fees to the food delivery companies, so customers have to 10 <u>cost</u> higher prices for meals. Food delivery is also bad for the planet because many boxes and plastic spoons get thrown away.	1 A. gets B. get to C. to get D. NO CHANGE 2 A. enjoy B. approved C. success D. NO CHANGE 3 A. easiest B. more easy C. easier D. NO CHANGE 4 A. on B. by C. ride D. NO CHANGE 5 A. delivery B. delivering C. delivered D. NO CHANGE 6 A. are cook B. cooking C. like cook D. NO CHANGE 7 A. tasty B. taste C. tasteless D. NO CHANGE 8 A. as result of B. as a result C. a result of D. NO CHANGE 9 A. have changed B. will have change C. have changing D. NO CHANGE 10 A. give B. spend C. pay D. NO CHANGE
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Part C – Joining sentences (10 marks, 2 marks each)

The paragraph below is divided into five pairs of sentences. Read each pair of sentences carefully and choose the one option (A, B, C or D) that joins the two sentences into one sentence grammatically and logically without changing the meaning. *Indicate your answers on the Answer Sheet provided.*

Getting Parrots as Pets

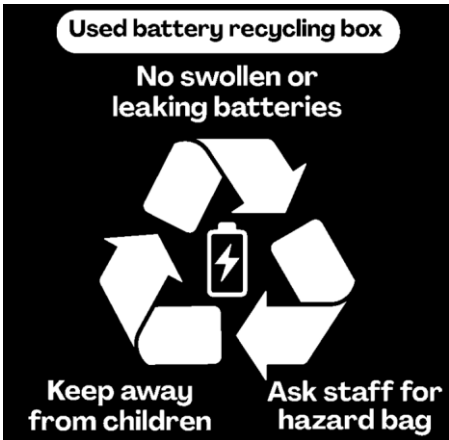
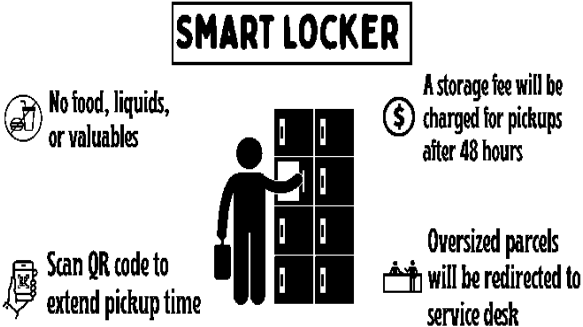
(1) Many people are interested in getting parrots as pets. They research parrots' daily care and long lifespan before they purchase a parrot. (2) Responsible owners often get parrots from rescues. They avoid supporting illegal sellers. (3) Young adults are attracted by social media clips about parrots. The clips show the birds solving puzzles. (4) In the past, parrots were mainly signs of wealth for the owner. Today, parrots are popular in middle-class families for being friendly. (5) Parrots can be difficult pets. Owners should attend workshops about taking good care of them before adopting one.

1. A. Because many people are interested in getting parrots as pets, they research parrot's daily care and long lifespan before they purchase a parrot.
B. Although many people are interested in getting parrots as pets, they research parrot's daily care and long lifespan before they purchase a parrot.
C. Many people are interested in getting parrots as pets, yet they research parrot's daily care and long lifespan before they purchase a parrot.
D. Despite being interested in getting parrots as pets, many people research parrot's daily care and long lifespan before they purchase a parrot.
2. A. Responsible owners get parrots from rescues when they buy from illegal sellers.
B. Responsible owners get parrots from rescues, although they also buy from illegal sellers.
C. Responsible owners get parrots from rescues rather than buying from illegal sellers.
D. Responsible owners get parrots from rescues unless they avoid illegal sellers.
3. A. Young adults, that show parrots solving puzzles, are attracted by social media clips.
B. Young adults are attracted by social media clips that show parrots solving puzzles.
C. Young adults are attracted by social media clips what the clips show the birds solving puzzles.
D. Young adults are attracted by social media clips where show parrots solving puzzles.
4. A. In the past, parrots were mainly signs of wealth for the owner, so today they are popular in middle-class families for being friendly.
B. In the past, parrots were mainly signs of wealth for the owner when today they are popular in middle-class families for being friendly.
C. In the past, parrots were mainly signs of wealth for the owner, whereas today they are popular in middle-class families for being friendly.
D. In the past, parrots were mainly signs of wealth for the owner unless today they are popular in middle-class families for being friendly.
5. A. Parrots can be difficult pets, which owners should attend workshops about taking good care of them before adopting one.
B. In spite of owners should attend workshops about taking good care of them before adopting one, parrots can be difficult pets.
C. Parrots can be difficult pets, but owners should attend workshops about taking good care of them before adopting one.
D. Parrots can be difficult pets, so owners should attend workshops about taking good care of them before adopting one.

Section 2 – Reading Comprehension (30 marks)

Part A – Everyday English (5 marks, 1 mark each)

Read the following notices and choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) for each question. **Indicate your answers on the Answer Sheet provided.**

	1. What does the notice tell customers? A. Use cash, but exact change only. B. Payment by card or a phone is preferred. C. Only phone payments are accepted. D. Cash is not accepted.
	2. Which of these follows the pod's rules? A. Taking a 30-minute nap if no one is waiting. B. Playing music on the speaker inside the pod. C. Leaving trash inside the pod after using it. D. Resting quietly for 15 minutes.
	3. Which of these safety warnings is not mentioned? A. Store used batteries from children's toys in a secure container. B. Avoid recycling batteries that are swollen or leaking. C. Keep children away from batteries. D. Request a hazard bag from the staff for recycling batteries.
	4. What happens if a parcel stays in the smart locker for more than 48 hours? A. It is returned to the owner immediately without any storage fee. B. The locker opens by itself to give out the oversized parcel. C. Storage fee will apply unless pickup time is extended using the QR code. D. Food, liquids or valuables will be taken to the service desk.

WATER MAINTENANCE NOTICE

Due to scheduled maintenance, water pressure in the Lovely Garden Building will be temporarily reduced on 14 Oct from 09:00 to 12:00. Residents are advised to fill bottles in advance, and enquiries may be directed to the Management Office.

5. What preparation does this notice suggest?
- A. Schedule laundry between 09:00–12:00 to take advantage of the reduced pressure.
 - B. Fill bottles or other containers before 09:00 for use during the low-pressure period.
 - C. Leave taps fully open during 09:00–12:00 so water keeps flowing.
 - D. Talk to the Management Office between 09:00 and 12:00.

Part B – Short passage (7.5 marks, 1.5 marks each)

Read the passage below and choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) for each question that follows.

Indicate your answers on the Answer Sheet provided.



The Cost of the Pink Tax

Have you ever been in a store and noticed that products for women have higher prices than the same types of products marketed for men? This difference in prices is called the “pink tax”. The pink tax is not a real tax where the money goes to the government, but it is like a tax because women have to pay it. Products for women and girls such as clothes, soaps, health products or toys are often

coloured or packaged in pink. Therefore, many people call higher prices for women the pink tax, while marketers call it *gender pricing*.

According to one study by the New York City government, products for women are 7% more expensive on average than products made for men. Clothes for women, for example, are usually more expensive than clothes for men. Women pay 10% more for jeans, 24% more for sport shoes and 27% more for underwear. Services also cost women more, with haircuts costing 40% more for women than they do for men. The California State Senate estimates that a woman pays about USD \$2,381 more per year than a man does for the same goods and services. This can add up to about \$188,000 over an average woman’s lifetime.

Women not only pay more for everyday things like clothes, they also pay more for important things like financial services. Car insurance is often more expensive for women because insurance companies say female drivers have a higher risk of accidents than men with similar driving safety records. Banks don’t give as many mortgage loans to women as they do to men, and women pay higher interest when they do get a loan. Accountant and author Janine Rogan has shown that women get fewer benefits from investment services than men, making it harder for women to save enough money to retire. Rogan says investment professionals may not communicate well with female clients or give them high-quality investment advice.

The pink tax has been studied since the 1990s, but not many countries have laws making gender pricing illegal. However, consumers have the power to stop the pink tax. Next time you see a pink girl’s toy sold at a much higher price than the same toy sold to boys in a different colour – don’t buy it!

This text is based on information from a variety of sources publicly available online.

- 1) What is the main topic of the text?
 - A. Taxes for women and men.
 - B. Higher prices paid for women's products.
 - C. Marketing products for women.
 - D. Packaging and colours for women's products.
 - 2) Why is gender pricing called "the pink tax"?
 - A. Because the money goes to the government.
 - B. Because marketers like to use this term.
 - C. Because many women's products are more expensive, and often coloured pink.
 - D. Because women and girls buy more soaps, health products and clothes than men.
 - 3) Which of these has the biggest price difference for women, according to the New York City government study?
 - A. Jeans
 - B. Underwear
 - C. Sport shoes
 - D. Haircuts
 - 4) Which of these charge women higher prices than men for the same service?
 - A. Car insurance companies
 - B. Accountants
 - C. Investment service providers
 - D. The California State Senate
 - 5) Janine Rogan has shown women get less benefit from investment services than men. What is one RESULT of this?
 - A. Investment professionals don't communicate well with their women clients.
 - B. Investment professionals don't give women clients high-quality investment advice.
 - C. Women have more difficulty saving enough money for retirement than men have.
 - D. Women earn more interest on their investments than men earn.
-

Part C – Long passage (17.5 marks, 1.5 marks each for 3 multiple choice questions, 1 mark each for 5 fill-in-the-blank questions and 4 marks each for 2 open-ended questions)

Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions.

The Reel Impacts

1. Social media has become essential to our everyday lives. For many people, posting messages and photos, checking, liking, and sharing posts by other people are important parts of their daily routines. Recently, one more item has been added to the to-do-list. That is – watching reels.
2. Reels, also known as *shorts* or *vertical video contents*, are videos around 15 to 60 seconds long. They are designed to be visually appealing, easily consumed, and shareable. These reels, which can be entertaining, educational or maybe both, are taking the world by storm.

3. Many businesses are now using social media reels as an advertising tool. Research on the different posting formats has shown that reels can generate significantly higher engagement compared to traditional posting formats like text-only or text-plus-image posts. Small businesses can improve online engagement by using reels to increase their brand exposure because making and uploading reels is not expensive. Reels can potentially boost sales and are emerging as a marketing tool for new businesses. Another study claimed that reels offer opportunities for people who want to be content creators to earn income and increase their visibility. Reels are also a channel for creativity and self-expression.
4. Other studies have pointed out potentially negative impacts reels have on users, especially teens. Experts note that social media reels are designed to be fast-paced and engaging. These reels, together with the likes and comments, can turn on the “reward system” in our brains, by offering continuous bursts of novelty and instant gratification. When we scroll through reels, the action hits our brain with a chemical that makes us feel good: dopamine. It gives us motivation to keep repeating the action. As a result, even though we know we should stop, we just keep scrolling through more reels. Such quick gratification is harmful. A research study reported that a person may safely enjoy about 200 hits of dopamine each day. Social media reels can easily deliver more hits than that very quickly. Consequently, watching reels becomes an addiction which impacts productivity, particularly for young viewers.
5. Reels also reduce people’s attention span. The preference for this kind of short, quick, entertaining content leads to declines in the ability to focus and think critically. It is increasingly common for people’s concentration on tasks that require long-term focus to be interrupted because they want quick instant pleasure. A report from *The New York Times* indicated that individuals under the age of 30 tend to favour brief, easily digestible content rather than longer formats. It noted that 60% of those surveyed expressed challenges in maintaining focus on tasks like reading or studying for long periods. In addition, constantly watching reels affects our emotions, making people less patient and more irritable.
6. Another harmful impact of reels is the promotion of comparison culture. Some reels constantly promote unhealthy body images, shallow pleasures, and expensive vacations. Constant feeds full of unrealistic perfection can set unattainable expectations, encourage a comparison culture and make people feel less satisfied with their lives, consequently creating stress, anxiety, and depression. Reels can also alter how we see personal relationships, leading to dissatisfaction and a decrease in commitment. Other known negative impacts of reels include less time spent with friends and family, poor posture, and sleep deprivation.
7. Short and highly engaging video clips can be helpful for businesses and may appear harmless. However, they can be addictive and even have long-term negative impacts on people’s physical and mental health. It is important for users not to turn enjoyment into obsession.

This text is based on information from a variety of sources publicly available online.

Glossary

engagement (n.) – emotional involvement / **engaging** (adj.) – interesting, something that gets attention
addiction (n.) – a strong desire to do something again and again / **addictive** (adj.) – leads to addiction

Part 1: Multiple Choice Questions

Choose the best answer from the four options (A, B, C or D). *Indicate your answers on the Answer Sheet provided. (4.5 marks, 1.5 marks each)*

1. **According to paragraph 1**, what do many people do on social media every day?
 - A. Set routines and post for other people.
 - B. Create reels and make comments.
 - C. View other peoples' posts and watch reels.
 - D. Comment on components and add to the to-do-list.

2. **According to paragraph 2**, the writer says a reel must be...
 - A. short and engaging.
 - B. engaging and educational.
 - C. educational and entertaining.
 - D. entertaining and harmless.

3. **According to paragraph 5**, people are finding it increasingly difficult to focus because...
 - A. they do not know how to think critically.
 - B. the tasks require them to interrupt the focus.
 - C. they have more patience for watching short films.
 - D. they prefer watching entertaining short films.

Part 2: Summary

A student took notes from PARAGRAPH 4. Complete the student's notes below by copying ONE WORD from paragraph 4 of the passage into each blank. *Write your answers in the blanks provided. The first one has been done for you. (5 marks, 1 mark each)*

The impact of watching short reels

Reels can have negative (0) impacts. Each time viewers watch a reel they enjoy, their brain releases (4) _____, a chemical linked to pleasure. This creates a cycle of seeking more content which gives that feeling, providing (5) _____ to keep watching. The feedback from likes and comments reinforces the behaviour of (6) _____ through more reels. Ultimately, this can lead to (7) _____, distracting users from productive activities, especially for (8) _____ people.

Part 3: Open-ended Questions (8 marks, 4 marks each)

Answer the following questions based on information found in the passage, using complete sentences. Write your answers in your own words on the lines provided. Do not copy the sentences directly from the passage.

9. According to the text, what are two ways that reels can help small businesses? (4 marks)

10. Name two of the problems caused by watching reels. Which of these problems do you think is the most serious? Why? (4 marks)

◆◆◆ Do NOT write below this line (For examiner use only) ◆◆◆		
Summary _____ /5		Summary _____ /5
#9 _____ /4		#9 _____ /4
#10 _____ /4		#10 _____ /4
Total _____ /13		Total _____ /13

Section Three – Writing (30 marks)

Instructions:

Choose ONE topic below and write an essay of at least 200 words on the topic. Through this essay, demonstrate your ability to write clearly and effectively.

- 1. Describe an app that you use often. Explain how you use this app and why you like it.*
- 2. Compare and contrast team sports (such as basketball) with doing exercise or sport (such as running) on your own.*
- 3. In your opinion, should people have surgery/ operations to make their faces more beautiful?*

Essays that are memorized, copied from other parts of the examination, and/or unrelated to the given topics will receive a mark of zero.

You **MUST** write the essay on pages 14 – 15 of this Examination Paper and answers written elsewhere will receive **NO** marks. You may make notes in the space below.

You can plan your writing in the space below.

JAE 2026 Answer Key

Section 1 — Language Use

Part A: Vocabulary & Grammar in context (VG)

1 A, 2 C, 3 B, / 4 B, 5 A, 6 C, 7 D / 8 A, 9 B, 10 C, / 11A, 12 B, 13 D, 14 C, 15 A

Part B: Spotting errors in context (EC)

1 C, 2 D, 3 C, 4 A, 5 C, 6 D, 7 B, 8 D, 9 A, 10 C

Part C: Joining Sentences (JS)

1 A, 2 C, 3 B, 4 C, 5 D

Section 2 — Reading comprehension

Part A: Everyday English (EE)

1 D, 2 D, 3 A, 4 C, 5 B

Part B: Short Reading (SR)

1 B, 2 C, 3 D, 4 A, 5 C

Part C: Long Reading (LR)

1 C, 2 A, 3 D

4 dopamine

5 motivation, (NOT ACCEPTED: gratification, novelty),

6 scrolling

7 addiction,

8 young

Long Reading Open-ended Questions (OEs)

9 Target text excerpt: *Small businesses can improve their online engagement by using reels to increase brand exposure and potentially boost sales. Thus, reels are becoming an emerging marketing tool for new businesses.*

Accepted answers ANY TWO OF THESE – *increase online engagement, increase brand exposure, boost sales, market products or services*. Paraphrasing is required in the answer as a whole to get any marks.

Just *marketing* on its own is not acceptable but *improve marketing / increase market share* etc. can be.

10 This question covers the whole text and can have up to three full sentence answers. Paraphrasing is required in the answer as a whole to get any marks. The opinion about which problem is most serious requires a justification for full marks, however the justification does not need to be based on the text.