RADLEY

2020 Scholarship Examination Paper

History

27 February 2020

Time allowed – 45 minutes

You are advised to spend half the time available on Section A and the remainder on Section B.

You are expected to write accurate, grammatical, well punctuated prose throughout this paper.

Section A.

1. **Read the following source and answer the questions below:**

A speech by Mao Zedong to the congress of the Chinese Communist Party in June 1945. Mao was the Chairman of the Party. The Chinese Communist Party did not govern China until 1949.

We must arouse the political consciousness of the entire people so that they may willingly and gladly fight together with us for victory. We should fire the whole people with the conviction that China belongs not to the reactionaries but to the Chinese people. There is an ancient Chinese fable called "The Foolish Old Man who Removed the Mountains." It tells of an old man who lived in northern China long, long ago and was known as the Foolish Old Man of North Mountain. His house faced south and beyond his doorway stood the two great peaks, Taihang and Wangwu, obstructing the way. With great determination, he led his sons in digging up these mountains hoe in hand. Another greybeard, known as the Wise Old Man, saw them and said derisively, "How silly of you to do this! It is quite impossible for you to dig up these two huge mountains." The Foolish Old Man replied, "When I die my sons will carry on; when they die, there will be my grandsons and then their sons and grandsons, and so on to infinity. High as they are, the mountains cannot grow any higher and with every bit we dig, they will be that much lower. Why can't we clear them anyway?" Having refuted the Wise Old Man's wrong view, he went on digging every day, unshaken in his conviction. God was moved by this, and he sent down two angels, who carried the mountains away on their backs. Today, two big mountains lie like a dead weight on the Chinese people. One is imperialism, the other is feudalism. The Chinese Communist Party has long made up its mind to dig them up. We must persevere and work unceasingly, and we too, will touch God's heart. Our God is none other than the masses of the Chinese people. If they stand up and dig together with us, why can't these mountains be cleared away?"

a) Select **either** a word, **or** a phrase, **or** a clause, which you find especially interesting and explain why it is interesting.

5 marks

b) What can we learn from this source about the state of China at the time that this speech was made? Explain your inferences.

10 marks

c) Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of this source as evidence in a historical enquiry about the period.

10 marks

Section B.

2. Answer one of the following the questions. Use precise knowledge where possible.

a) Focus on a single event that you have studied. How important was it?

b) Focus on two leaders you have studied. Which one is more important?

25 marks