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## FOREWORD

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This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

# CHINESE

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## GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Paper 8669/04

Texts

### General comments

Candidates had to answer 3 questions. Most candidates answered questions on 'Zhufu', 'Leiyu', 'Lin Jia Puzi' and 'Xiao Erhei Jiehun'. Short answers and essays were largely well-planned with the information asked for in the question provided in a carefully thought out and systematic fashion.

Candidates should remember that it will always be very apparent to the Examiner if they have not read, or have little knowledge of a text. Where a candidate has no real knowledge of a text, this will have a significant impact on the marks s/he can gain, even if s/he writes in fluent Chinese.

### Comments on specific questions

#### *Section 1*

##### **Question 1**

- (a) Candidates answered this question well. Candidates would benefit from reading each sub-question very carefully to make sure they have thoroughly considered what is required before starting to answer. Candidates should realise that for some sub-questions there is no one right answer. Candidates should give their view and then make their case for it.
- (b) Candidates did not choose this question.

##### **Question 2**

- (a) This question was well answered. There were some particularly thoughtful comments on the stage directions.
- (b) This question gave candidates the opportunity to make a case and provide arguments to back it up. It was well done.

##### **Question 3**

- (a) To answer this question effectively, it was insufficient to be able to read and comment on the printed extract. Candidates needed to be conversant with the poem as a whole.
- (b) Candidates did not choose this question.

##### **Question 4**

Candidates did not choose this question.

**Section 2**

**Question 5**

- (a) There were some good convincing answers about the heroine of this story with each of the points in the question addressed and illustrated.
- (b) Candidates did not choose this question.

**Question 6**

Candidates did not choose this question.

**Question 7**

- (a) On the whole, candidates answered this question well. It was evident that some candidates would have benefited from a little more background knowledge about China at the time the story was written. The best answers came from candidates who dealt with the issues of the anti-Japanese war, government corruption and bankruptcy in the countryside separately, rather than muddling them together.
- (b) Candidates did not choose this question.

**Question 8**

Candidates did not choose this question.