

Super :

Myths about the HKDSE

What happens to the answer scripts after the exam?

Tumble Boy:

Mum, I've made it!

Ace:

Mum, I've flopped.

How on earth can you eat now?

Stop eating! Help me out with an explanation to my mum.

My results in two subjects are worse than I expected.

Shing Ngai:

My results in all subjects are worse than expected.

Shouldn't I be more upset? Top student.

According to the experts eating is therapeutic.

Ming, one more drumstick please.

Cheung Ting:

Make it two, please.

Ace:

Where were you after the results release?

Cheung Ting:

I went to see the district councillor with my neighbours.

I haven't eaten yet.

Shing Ngai:

Honestly. It's our big day today.

Can't imagine you are still spending time on these trivial matters?

Cheung Ting:

How dare you say those are trivial matters!

It's our civil right to express our opinion.

I consider it my mission to improve society.

Unlike you two, who do nothing but moan all day.

Ace:

So, you must have got very good results.

Cheung Ting:

Well, they are okay.

But I think I should have got level 5** in Liberal Studies.

I've only got level 4, and I'm not happy at all.

Ace:

Is level 4 not good enough for you?

Shing Ngai:

If I got level 4, I wouldn't have to seek comfort from these drumsticks.

Cheung Ting:

Why are you two so short-sighted?

You only care about your results.

I think there is something wrong with the marking system of the HKDSE.

That's why my results in Liberal Studies are not as good as I thought.

Ace & Shing Ngai:

Seriously?

Cheung Ting:

When I took the Liberal Studies exam, I answered every question as best as I could and gave very clear analyses and standpoints.

I think the marker must have different political views and beliefs from me.

That's why I was given such low marks.

I think it is so subjective and unfair.

Ming:

Here come the drumsticks.

See, I've told you not to be too radical.

You must have upset the marker.

Cheung Ting:

The marking was unfair. I must complain about it.

Principal Tam:

Who wants to complain?

Ace, Shing Ngai, Cheung Ting & Ming:

Principal Tam.

Principal Tam:

Who is complaining now?

Cheung Ting

I am.

Principal Tam:

Before filing a complaint, you should know the facts first.

Cheung Ting:

I think my script was marked by a marker who held different views from me.

Principal Tam:

Really? Let's trace where your answer scripts went after the exam.

Answer scripts collected in exam centres will be first delivered to...

Shing Ngai:

The paper recycling centre!

Ace:

I know. Answer scripts will be delivered to the Tsuen Wan Scanning Centre.

Super:

Scanning Centre

Ace:

Images of the scanned scripts will be saved in a secure database.

Then, the scripts will be distributed to markers via an Onscreen Marking (OSM) system.

Principal Tam:

Your answer scripts are anonymous and are randomly distributed to different markers.

Except for teachers from the same school as the candidates, your answer scripts can be marked by any markers.

Cheung Ting:

But if my answer script is marked by a marker who dislikes my response, I might be given very low marks.

Don't you think so?

Principal Tam, do you think so?

Principal Tam:

Do you know there is more than one marker involved in marking your answer scripts?

Cheung Ting:

Yes I know, there are four questions for the two papers in Liberal Studies.

Paper 1 is marked by one marker while Paper 2 is marked by another.

It was just too bad that my script was marked by a marker who disliked my view.

Principal Tam:

In fact, OSM has been fully implemented in the HKDSE.

A marker does not mark an entire script on his own.

Double marking is adopted in some subjects.

For example, in Liberal Studies markers will only mark one of the questions and every question will be marked by two markers.

If the mark discrepancy of the two markers is bigger than the tolerance limit, the script will be automatically passed on to a third marker by the OSM system.

If mark discrepancies still exceed the tolerance limit, the script will then be marked by the Chief Examiner or Assistant Examiner(s) to ensure it is marked as objectively as possible.

In other words, every question is marked by at least two or even four markers at most.

In Liberal Studies Papers 1 and 2, there are four questions in total.

Now, you do the arithmetic.

Cheung Ting:

That means at least eight, and at most 16 markers are involved in marking my answer scripts.

Ace:

The marking mechanism ensures that your results will not be affected by personal views, leniency or strictness of the markers.

Principal Tam:

Moreover, before markers proceed to mark the scripts they would first hold a meeting to standardise the marking standard.

Markers undergo training and testing before they can start marking.

During the marking process, checkmarking is conducted by the Chief Examiner to ensure that consistent standards are adopted by all markers.

It is not possible for markers to mark a script based on their own subjective views.

Shing Ngai:

In other words, your performance in the exam is actually poor.

Principal Tam:

Don't be silly.

The result proved that her performance deserved a level 4 and it has nothing to do with luck.

Super:

For details about the HKDSE marking procedure, please visit the HKEAA website:

www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/HKDSE/assessment/marketing/marketing_procedure_for_written_papers/

Super:**Cast**

Helen Tam Yuk-ying	Principal Tam
Ng Kwok-ming	Ming
Koon Yuk	Ace
Cheng Ka-kit	Shing Ngai
Tsui Ka-yan	Cheung Ting
Cheng Chun Tung	Tumble Boy

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