

Read **Text A**, and then answer **Questions 1(a)–1(e)** on the question paper.

**Text A: My aunt**

*This passage is a part of a long journal written by Kong Liu. She describes her memory of her aunt.*

Being raised by my hard-working grandmother, my aunt was equipped with a woman's necessary skills. She was said to have jewel hands, especially on any household chore. According to my mother, my aunt was a fantastic sewer and house manager, she was able to handle the family's low income and managed to keep everything going. She married an unsuccessful salesman, who was away in other parts of the country part of the time and always jumping from one province to another without telling his wife. It resulted in my aunt's insufficient resources. She became uneasy with seeing other people spent money like they owned a pool of cash and pouring it all into the ocean!

Her colleagues at the company didn't understand and hated her criticisms. My aunt at work was like a tribe's leader, manipulating even the use of a piece of paper. She had earned the fame of being able to burst into sudden roars at her team, it was so abusive that many couldn't hold their tears. However, they accepted her conscientious executive for the tasks in hand--she had never failed to detect even a small mistake in projects. As they couldn't deny her outstanding leadership, they tried their best to come to terms with her outrageous temper.

My mother, several times, got tired of my aunt's rage and her never-stop criticisms. She didn't like my aunt's mentioning about my highest education, thinking that it paved the path of being radical. Mother developed a local conservative belief that the most acceptable quality of a woman was drawn from her humble character, but I seemed to grow up escalating my aunt's rough and straightforward manners. Personally, I perceived that my mother preferred my future to be more peaceful than my aunt's battle-like daily routine.

Read **Text A**, *My aunt*, in the insert and then answer **Questions 1(a)–(e)** on this question paper.

**Question 1**

(a) Give **two** characteristics of the writer's aunt, according to the text.

- .....
- ..... [1]

(b) Using **your own words**, explain what the text means by:

(i) 'jewel hands' (line 1):

- .....
- ..... [2]

(ii) 'insufficient resources' (line 6-7):

- .....
- ..... [2]

(c) Re-read paragraph 1, ('Being raised by my hard-working...into the ocean! ').

Give **two** reasons why there wasn't much money for the writer's aunt.

- .....
- ..... [2]

(d) Re-read paragraphs 2, ('Her colleagues at the company...outrageous temper.')

(i) Identify **two** reasons why her colleagues didn't like her.

- .....
- ..... [2]

(ii) Explain why her colleagues had to come to terms with her.

- .....
- .....
- ..... [3]

(e) Re-read paragraph 3, ('My mother, several times...battle-like daily routine.').

**Using your own words**, explain why the writer's mother had conflict with her aunt.

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..... [3]