

IoL EDUCATIONAL TRUST

**INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMA IN
BILINGUAL COMMUNICATION**

(IDBC)

MODULE 4

PART 1

INTERPRETING

November 2008

Time allowed: Approx. 30 minutes

(10 minutes preparation and 20 minutes face-to-face interaction)

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- 1. The task consists of consecutive (liaison) interpreting (interpreting after an interlocutor has finished speaking), from both English into Chinese and Chinese into English.*
- 2. The interpreting task lasts 20 minutes and involves two interlocutors.*
- 3. You have ten minutes to study your task brief before you are taken into the examination room.*
- 4. You may consult a dictionary or glossary during the 10 minutes, but may NOT look up words while interpreting the task itself.*
- 5. Only dictionaries in book form may be used during the 10 minute preparation time. Electronic dictionaries must NOT be used.*
- 6. Some sheets may be printed on both sides. Please ensure that you look at both sides of each sheet.*
- 7. You may NOT remove the test paper from the examination room.*

INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BILINGUAL COMMUNICATION 2008

MODULE 4

PART 1: CONSECUTIVE LIAISON INTERPRETING

CANDIDATE'S TASK BRIEF:

You have been asked to interpret between a Cantonese/Mandarin-speaking journalist and an English-speaking journalist on the issue of drugs in sport, as preparations for the 2012 Olympic Games in London are under way.

Participants:

English speaker: Richard Adams of *The Guardian*

Cantonese speaker: Shi Tao of Ming Pao Daily

C1 Hello Richard, thanks for agreeing to speak with me today.

E1 No problem. I understand you wanted to talk about the issue of drugs in sport, particularly in the UK?

C2 Yes, that is right. Given the fact that the 2012 Olympic Games will be held in London, I wanted to get the opinion of a British journalist on how Britain perceives this problem.

E2 Well, I think that the public generally are sick and tired of cheats. I think that we now have an opportunity second to none to make a stand.

C3 Is that the view of the British alone, or do you think that the rest of the world feels the same way?

E3 People worldwide want to pay their money to see a contest that is a true contest. In the lead up to the Olympics, cheats will be found out and we need to encourage all nations to weed them out and leave them at home.

C4 The International Olympics Committee has made it clear that from now on there will be more testing – significantly more – than at any other times in the Games history. Does that mean that there will be no positive tests?

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E4 I'd love to think that none would be found but I'm realistic enough to recognise that human nature is not like that. I simply say that the Olympics will become more effective in dealing with the detection of misuse of drugs in sports.

C5 But I understand that the British government has no plans to make use of drugs by athletes a criminal act. How can that fit in with the International Olympics Committee's aims?

E5 Every nation has the right to choose the approach that works for them. British athletes who have been found to be using drugs could face a lifetime ban from the Olympic Games.

C6 Why do you think athletes do it? Surely they must know that they are risking their career, their livelihood, their professional, and indeed personal, reputation, by becoming involved in such practices. Do the potential penalties not outweigh the rewards?

E6 I suppose money has a lot to do with it. Making use of modest doses of some drug that will help you to keep at the top level of a sport where a significant number – possibly most – of your team mates and rivals are doing the same, and where the financial prizes are high, may appear inevitable.

C7 Do they not realise what kind of role model they are establishing for the young people who want to become famous like them for their skill in a sport? These days so much of our youth is looking to find role models, people whom they feel they can respect for their achievements.

E7 Serious sport can provide children with a form of discipline and structure. But they want to see normal athletes with normal abilities, as you say people that they can respect. Could they really respect someone whose achievements are based on artificial enhancements?

C8 Do you see any solution to this problem? What would be your way of combating this issue? You surely have an opinion of your own on this topic?

E8 I think there are effectively only two ways. The first is by legislation. If that fails, then zero tolerance, through never-ending random testing programmes.

C9 But who would fund those testing programmes? Would the British government fund them? Are there sufficient resources for this?

E9 No, it would have to come from the sports themselves. There is considerable money involved in sports which could perhaps be put to better use than it currently is.

C10 But would that not simply push children who show the slightest sign of sporting ability to be fed the drugs at school, so that by the time they come to take up the sport professionally they do not need to take them any more?

E10 Yes, I can see that that could be a problem. What would be your solution?

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C11 What about simply removing all the financial rewards from sports? Make it all about the pride of winning only?

E11 In an ideal world, that may work. But one has to be a pragmatist: there are too many people who have invested too much money to let that happen.

C12 And what about the alternative – to just let it happen. To stop looking and stop caring? To shed any sense of personal responsibility or liability?

E12 That wouldn't work either. That is a nonsensical suggestion. Too many people do care and you wouldn't be able to stop them getting involved.

C13 Thank you Richard for answering all of my questions.

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