**Assessment Task for Speaking**

**Topic: Online Dating**

This assessment task focuses on developing senior secondary students’ speaking skills.

**Speaking Task: Online Dating**

**Part A Group Discussion** (Preparation: 10 minutes; discussion: 8 minutes per group of four candidates)

Below is an article that appeared in yesterday’s newspaper:

**Woman Raped by Cyber Boyfriend**

A 22-year-old woman was blackmailed by her ‘boyfriend’ whom she met on the Internet and had been going out with for two weeks, police said yesterday. The man was arrested at his home in Sham Shui Po last night.

According to the police, the woman stayed at a rented flat in Cheung Chau with the accused on 24 November. After having sex with him, she was blackmailed by the accused, who claimed to have taken a complete video of their act.

The accused is in his late thirties and currently unemployed. He lives with a roommate in a rented flat in Sham Shui Po.

On 25 November, the day after the ‘couple’ stayed on Cheung Chau, the accused sent the woman a short video clip which showed her lying in bed with part of her body naked. The man asked for $50,000 and threatened to make the video public if she approached the police.

The woman plucked up her courage and reported to the police on 26 November.

Your group wants to write an article for your school newspaper about online dating. Discuss with your group what to include in your article. You may want to talk about:

* why people choose to date online
* the advantages of online dating
* the disadvantages of online dating
* anything else you think is important

**Part B Individual Response**

1. Why do you think many teenagers are eager to have a boyfriend or girlfriend?
2. In finding a boyfriend or girlfriend, what qualities do you look for in him/her?
3. Do you think social networking sites on the Internet are a good way of making new friends?
4. Why do you think parents are concerned about their children making friends on the Internet?
5. How can we get to truly understand a new friend?
6. Do you think personal safety is a problem of online dating?
7. What advice would you give to a friend of yours who is going to meet his/her online boyfriend or girlfriend for the first time?
8. Apart from the Internet, what are some other ways young people can meet new friends?

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

You may refer to the Speaking Descriptors for HKDSE Paper 4 (Speaking) on pp. 16-17 of the Standards-referenced Reporting Information Package for English Language (HKEAA, 2009) already disseminated to schools and available for purchase at HKEAA’s online bookstore at:

<http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/resources/publications/list_of_publications/hkdse_srr_pub/>