This worksheet aims to guide students to discuss China’s economic development.

Core Module 15: An Overview of the Chinese Economy
Foundation Part: Macro-economy of the Mainland

This cartoon describes China’s economic situation in 2011. Please note that the suitability of the contents in this cartoon is time-bound.

Economic crises include worsening inflation, soaring costs, and serious pollution.

1. What does the train in the cartoon represent? What do you think is the speed it is travelling at?
   - China’s economy.
   - It is travelling forward at high speed. (Someone said, "Cut the speed, or it will be at risk of derailment!")

2. Someone in the cartoon says that it will be at risk of derailment for the train of China’s economy. What does the “risk of derailment” mean?
   - Economic Crisis

3. What does the train captain in the cartoon represent?
   - The Chinese government/the ministries of China that are in charge of drafting important economic policies.
4. Someone in the cartoon says it will be at the risk of derailment. Why does the train captain still think that rapid and steady development is the most ideal? (Hint: Consider the possible consequences if the pace of development is greatly reduced.)

- China has a large population. Maintaining rapid economic growth can help maintain employment opportunities for its people.
- Maintain social stability.

(Other reasonable and relevant answers are acceptable.)
If you have to find something to replace the train in the cartoon, what would you use? Please put down your answer in the space below and explain your answer.

(Students may answer freely, but they need to provide reasonable explanation(s).)  
Suggested answers:
- aeroplane, 
- overheated thermometer, 
- rocket, a feverish China and so on.