

## **APR 10 (THU) 1B Assembly**

### **Case 1**

A: Wow! It's so hot today!

B: Yup! I'm so thirsty now! Have you brought anything to drink?

A: Yeah, I do. ....Ooops! I left my bottle of water at school.

B: Oh mine! There is no water dispenser here!

A: No problem! There is tap water in the restroom!

B: What? Tap water? Restroom?

A: Yes, I've tried it before. Trust me!

B: Well, I don't want to go to the hospital!

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### **Q1. Can we drink the tap water without boiling in Hong Kong?**

The quality of water treated in The Water Supplies Department treatment works is of high quality. You can drink tap water without boiling if the management of your building is done properly.

### **Case 2**

A: Come on, coward! Have a try! See!!

B: (smell) Ewwwww! What's that smell?

A: What smell?

B: Like the smell in the swimming pool. What's that?

A: I have no idea.

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### **Q2. Why does the tap water contain a smell of chlorine?**

As most Hong Kong people are living in high-rise buildings, it may take a long time for the water from treatment works to reach the consumers. A small amount of residual chlorine is maintained in the water to keep it free from bacterial infection. This minimal amount of chlorine will disappear if the water is boiled.

### **Case 3**

B: I see. Boiled water.

A: No wonder there is no such smell in the drinking water at home.

B: I have got a water filter at home as well.

A: Really? Does it work?

B: I guess so.

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Q3. Is it necessary to install a domestic water filter (including that incorporated in a drinking fountain or other similar water using apparatus)?

Hong Kong enjoys one of the safest water supplies in the world. The quality of the water supplied by the Water Supplies Department (WSD) conforms to the Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality recommended by the World Health Organization. WSD does not recommend the installation of any domestic water filters because they may become ideal breeding ground for bacterial growths and give rise to health hazards if they are not properly maintained.

**I see. We ourselves should be responsible for the quality of water passed through their filters and proper maintenance of the filters. Thank you.**

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