

SED on HKDSE History Examination question setting

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, at a media session after attending a special meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Education today (May 25):

Reporter: Could I ask, because you said the question was too complicated, that (since) most students, or at least around 60 per cent, could answer correctly that there was more harm than good brought to China by Japan, are you still saying that the correct argument is that this is too difficult a question for DSE (Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education) students?

Secretary for Education: My colleagues say it is a very difficult question in the sense that the information provided, the two paragraphs or the two pieces of information provided are very complicated in nature. There are a lot of rationales behind, some saying they are good and some saying they are bad, and there are also some underlying reasons for analysis of why the Japanese did these things at that point in time. So if we ask Secondary Six students to analyse these two pieces of information within a short period of time, and normally these two pieces of information will not be taught in a normal lesson of a school, then it will be very difficult for them to give a very meaningful analysis.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)