

Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2018

Pearson Edexcel GCE Chinese
(6CN03)

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Introduction

In the 2018 exam cycle, Chinese A2 6CN03 paper is the last year of using the 2008 specification. The paper's structure remains the same.

There are four questions on the paper.

Question 1 concerns reading comprehension. Candidates are required to read a paragraph in Chinese and then answer a series of questions in Chinese. The content of the text is within one of the 4 themes (Education and Employment; Youth, Culture and Chinese traditional festivals; Food, Diet and Health and Travel and Tourism)

In Question 2, candidates are required to translate a short paragraph from English into Chinese related to one of the 4 themes. Candidate translations are graded by both the accuracy of converting meaning as well as the quality of their language.

In Question 3, candidates are required to write an essay between 250 and 500 words to respond to the pre-set 4 bullet points. This writing task is orientated on the same topic as the reading text. The aim is to assess how well candidates have acquired the abilities to comprehend information in Chinese as well as to develop their understanding in a logical way to form analyses and/or argument.

In Question 4, candidates are expected to respond showing that they have researched via extensive reading and/or data collection related to the target language and culture. Critical thinking skills and independent evaluation should be exercised in candidates' essays.

Question 1

In section A, candidates need to scan through the text and locate the relevant information for the question requirements. Many candidates are able to exercise their reading skill and select the required content. The majority of candidates were able to answer this question successfully with achieving full marks. Question (a) and (b) proved more difficult for a small number of candidates.

Candidates are reminded that reading comprehension requires them to identify the answers exclusively from the text and construct answers precisely but not to cite the full sentence.

SECTION A: Reading

1 Write your answers to Section A here:

(a)

(2)

由於工作繁忙
為了節省時間

(b)

(1)

因為如今中西快餐店隨處可見，不少人一日三餐都離不開快餐。

(c)

(1)

既方便又衛生。

(d)

(1)

因為快餐店服務快、價格低。

(e)

(2)

缺少了對健康有好處的蔬菜和粗糧。

(f)

(2)

常吃快餐會出現營養不平衡，導致肥胖。

(g)

(1)

充足的睡眠和愉快的心情。

Question 2

Most candidates performed this question well. General structures of sentences, key phrases and word orders were presented successfully in most candidates' answers.

Many candidates were able to achieve 7/8 marks or above, however a small number of candidates were let down by poor Chinese vocabulary – they either left a gap for the words they did not remember how to write or simply wrote Pinyin.

Candidates are advised to pay more attention to nuance in languages, such as the subtle differences between 可以, 可能, 應該/应该, 會/会,

all of which can be translated into English word 'can'. Some candidates were on the liberal side by introducing added words in the translation which were not present in the original text, such as 開始/开始, 住宿, 退學/退学, 大學生/大学生, 中學/中学。

SECTION B: Translation

2 Write your answer to Section B here:

上大学的花费是很昂贵的。当学生们准备他们的考试时, 他们的家长却在担心着大学学费。一些伦敦的大学担心学生们会因为高额~~支出~~的生活费而退学。

然而, 学生们仍会去大学, 因为他们可以获得知识和学习一些有用的技能。大学可能是一个学会独立自主与交朋友的好地方。

对于大多数学生而言, 最重要的事情是选择一门他们喜欢的课程。

Question 3

Most candidates were able to respond to all 4 bullet points and showed a good understanding of the general topic which was food, diet and health; but some candidates were unable to provide well-balanced coverage – giving only one line for one bullet point but half page of writing to another; with cursory mentioning of one bullet point but merging it with another point; not covering all points. Some candidates did not use this opportunity to show off their writing skills but simply copied the reading text of Question 1, rendering their essay without detailed explanations. For bullet point three some candidates talked only about the link between fast food and health rather than the more general point of the connection between diet and health. For bullet point four many candidates confined themselves to the effects of modern life on diet rather than mentioning the variety of health problems that result from our modern lifestyle.

分段請開新行。

不要超出規定字數。

請注意：把標點符號寫在方格外的空間，不要填寫在方格內。

分段請開新行。

不要超出規定字數。

		對	於	我	而	言	，	會	選	擇	在	時	間	比	較	15	
繁	忙	的	時	候	來	選	擇	用	快	餐	來	替	代	，	正	30	
常	飲	食	，	或	者	在	自	己	不	想	做	飯	的	情	況	45	
下	，	我	也	會	叫	外	賣	來	吃	一	些	快	餐	，	因	為	60
它	既	省	時	，	又	可	以	填	飽	自	己	的	肚	子	，	滿	75
足	自	己	的	味	道	，	況	且	在	如	今	這	個	生	活	90	
節	奏	逐	漸	加	快	的	世	界	中	，	我	覺	得	人	們	105	
真	的	沒	有	太	多	的	閒	暇	時	間	去	耗	費			120	
太	多	的	時	間	在	食	物	上	，	而	快	餐	的	方	135		
便	快	捷	，	又	美	味	，	剛	好	迎	合	了	這	個	時	150	

代,可能这就是快餐愈加要受人欢迎
 的原因,观
 还记得小时候,快餐并没有如今
 这样随处可见,对于那时的我来说,快
 餐亦是一种佳肴般的存在,但随着时
 间的推移,越来越多的人因时间问题
 只能选择用高热量的快餐来替代正
 常粮食,这使当代人们的身体出现了
 各种各样的健康问题,肥胖、内分泌失
 调都是因饮食的不规律和暴饮暴食
 所造成的,我觉得健康和饮食是一种
 相辅相成的存在,良好的饮食习惯可
 以改善一个人的健康问题。
 因此并且现代人们的生活方式
 也发生了很大变化,越来越多的人选
 择利用晚上休息的时间去外出

的活,人们应该用更多的时间去放松
 积极的心态,和健康的饮食同样是非
 常重要的。

Question 4

In general, a Research-based essay requires candidates to provide strong and well-focussed answers. Content has to be relevant at all times.

Candidates need to offer consistent explanations in their analysis. A substantiated answer, making good use of facts, should be supported by evaluation and judgements throughout but not just in the conclusion. Using sound knowledge to support the evaluation is essential. In terms of organisation and development, candidates should make effective links between paragraphs and be well-structured and organised. Factors should be linked and cross-evaluated.

This year's cohort demonstrated a slightly more in-depth research and higher quality essays than last year, a clear indication of hard work and preparation. But there were some essays indicated little or no research was carried out for the chosen topic, and a few essays were not written about the chosen topics. A few candidates wrote very good responses based on a literary analysis of the writing methods but this did not meet the requirement of this Question.

4 Write your answer to Section D here:

Start a new line to begin a new paragraph.

Do not exceed the stipulated word limit (250-500 characters).

Topic or text you have chosen for your essay: 7. Han nationality traditions

Title of your essay: 为什么广东人对饮茶如此热衷?

[illegible]

		首	先	广	东	自	古	以	来	是	海	上	贸	易	135
的	中	心	而	在	中	国	古	代	茶	叶	和	丝	绸	是	150
重	要	的	贸	易	商	品	全	国	各	地	的	优	质	茶	165
叶	在	这	里	汇	集	集	所	以	不	少	广	东	人	养	180
成	了	喝	茶	的	习	惯	然	而	广	式	早	茶	就	是	195
当	时	为	了	给	商	人	们	提	供	一	个	既	要		210
丰	盛	又	快	捷	的	餐	而	形	成						225
							点								240

		陈	了	历	史	原	因	广	东	人	喜	欢	饮	茶	255		
还	因	为	它	环	境	优	雅	消	费	经	济	这	点	由	270		
其	吸	引	老	年	人	就	以 ^{广州}	著	名	的	茶	楼	“	陶	285		
居	”	为	例	，	在	那	吃	早	茶	的	人	均	消	费	300		
为	84	元	，	对	于	人	均	每	月	300	元	退	休	金	的	315	
广	东	退	休	人 ^们	来	说	，	每	周	去	一	趟	楼	居	330		
消	费	，	经	济	负	担	不	大	。而	且	，	比	“	陶	陶	345	
居	”	便	宜	的	茶	楼	数	不	胜	数	。					360	
																375	
		此	外	，	作	为	一 种	家 ^庭	的	传	承	，	许	多		390	
广	东	人	热	爱	饮	茶	源	于	对	它	的	熟	悉	感		405	
因	为	大	家	从	小	就	有	着	与	家	人	一	起	去		420	
饮	茶	的	经 ^历	， 所以	吃	早	茶	，	便	成	了	人	们	生		435	
活	中	不	可	缺	少	的	一	陪	分	在	多	就	餐	的		450	
首	选	。														465	
																480	
		由	此	可	见	，	广	式	早	茶	不	单	止	是	中		495
国	茶	文	化	发	源	点	之	一 [，]	它 ^{我认为}	还	是	中	华	美 ^德		510	
食	文 化	和	岭	南	文	化	其	中	之	精	髓	，	它	值		525	

Paper Summary

Based on their performance in this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

In Section A, candidates are reminded that reading comprehension requires them to identify the answers **exclusively** from the text and construct answers precisely but **not** to cite the full sentence.

In Section B, candidates are recommended to pay more attention to nuance in language and should not add extra things in the translation that were not present in the original text.

In Section C, candidates are reminded to respond to all four bullet points and provide well-balanced coverage to per bullet point. Candidates should draft their answers with wholly relevant information and provide factual details in explanations. The essay structure should be clear and coherent. There should be logical connections between each paragraph.

Section D is the Research-Based essay which requires candidates to write up to 500 characters. Candidates should ensure that they choose a topic area which is of interest to them and that is related to one of the four specific topic areas: modern history, geography of China, society, films and books.

It is vital that research is linked directly to Chinese culture and/or society. Candidates are recommended to research widely and in depth around their chosen topic. Keeping records and a bibliography of all material consulted is essential, as is expected of academic research.

Candidates must be reminded that Research-based essay should offer valuable sources or valid arguments and is not an exercise in creative writing. Candidates should provide a strong and well-focussed topic, offer consistent explanations and a substantiated answer which is supported by evaluation throughout. They should employ balanced knowledge in their analysis. They should make effective links between paragraphs and their essay should be well-structured and organised. Opinions should be linked and cross-evaluated.

Grade Boundaries

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