

Examiners' Report

June 2025

GCE Chinese 9CN0 01

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Introduction

This paper assesses the candidates' understanding of spoken and written Chinese from a variety of types of authentic texts and listening materials, as well as their ability to translate accurately from Chinese to English.

Students should be able to:

- Understand main points, gist and detail from spoken and written material
- Infer meaning from complex spoken and written material
- Assimilate and use information from spoken and written sources, including material from online media
- Summarise information from spoken sources, reporting key points and subject matter
- Translate from Chinese to English.

This paper has a total of 80 marks. It comprises three sections. Section A: Listening (30 marks); Section B: Reading (30 marks); Section C: Translation into English (20 marks). Students must answer all questions in each section (A, B and C).

The use of dictionaries is not permitted.

The total assessment time is 2 hours. Students are recommended to spend 50 minutes on Section A, 50 minutes on section B and 20 minutes on Section C.

Students have full control of the recordings. They can work through the sections and the questions in any order they prefer. However, it is recommended that candidates work through the questions in the order given within each Section.

Question 2

This is an open-response question. When responding to open-response questions, candidates may use words from the listening passage, but they must not transcribe parts of the text where the questions require them to manipulate the language in order to render the responses accurate to the questions.

There are no marks for quality of language in this paper so minor errors and omissions, for example missing a stroke in writing Chinese characters, will be tolerated as long as the message is not ambiguous and does not interfere with communication.

Q2 is a listening passage based on a news report about Chinese astronauts celebrating Spring Festival in space. It is an open-response question worth 8 marks. In general, candidates performed well on this question.

(a)

(1)

通过中国青年网。

(b)

(1)

福字。

(c)

(2)

天心，幸福。

(d)

(1)

饺子

(e)

(2)

实现梦想，每个中国人越来越富有的。

(f)

(1)

表演了书法



(a) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (b) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (c) 0 mark is awarded as the first response 天心 does not have the same meaning as the correct answer 开心 , and the second response 幸遇 does not have the same meaning as the correct answer 幸运 . In total, 0 mark is awarded for this item. (d) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (e) 1 mark is awarded for the first response as per the mark scheme. 1 mark is also awarded for the second response as per the mark scheme. (f) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme.



Candidates should continue to answer questions directly and succinctly. And they should continue to provide the correct number of responses as required, that is, when it is a one-mark question, one response should be given; when it is a two-mark question, two responses should be given.

Question 3(a)

This is an open-response question. When responding to open-response questions, candidates may use words from the listening passage, but they must not transcribe parts of the text where the questions require them to manipulate the language in order to render the responses accurate to the questions.

There are no marks for quality of language in this paper so minor errors and omissions, for example missing a stroke in writing Chinese characters, will be tolerated as long as the message is not ambiguous and does not interfere with communication.

Q3a is a listening passage in which two people talk about their respective reasons for not getting married.

3 (a)

(i)

(1)

做财富管理

(ii)

(2)

找朋友聊天

骑马,散步

(iii)

(2)

现在过得很好。

不想失去现在的自由。

(iv)

(1)

35岁。

(v)

(1)

贫穷,没钱,

(vi)

(1)

农村女生梦想嫁到城市,并要求车,房。



This question asks candidates to identify what is similar between women who live in the countryside and those who live in the city. However, this candidate talks only about those women who live in the countryside and nothing about those who live in the city.



Candidates should read questions carefully and ensure that they address the questions directly and succinctly in their answers.

(vi)

(1)

嫁到城市去



(i) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (ii) 1 mark is awarded for the first response as per the mark scheme. 1 mark is given for the second response as per the mark scheme. In total, 2 marks are awarded for this item. (iii) 1 mark is awarded for the first response as per the mark scheme. 0 mark is awarded for the second response as the lack of sufficient detail has caused the meaning of the response to differ from that of the original passage. In total, 1 mark is awarded for this item. (iv) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (v) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (vi) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme.



Candidates should continue to answer questions directly and succinctly. And they should continue to provide the correct number of responses as required, that is, when it is a one-mark question, one response should be given; when it is a two-mark question, two responses should be given.

Question 3(b)

Candidates are required to summarise the passage they listened to. They may use words from the listening passage, but they must not transcribe the content word by word.

There are no marks for quality of language in this paper so minor errors and omissions, for example missing a stroke in writing Chinese characters, will be tolerated as long as the message is not ambiguous and does not interfere with communication.

Q3b is an interview in which two people talk about some of the reasons young people are reluctant to get married nowadays and some of the issues society is facing due to an unwillingness to get married.

3 (b)

(i) 費用

- 費用很高

(4)

- 不結婚也可以很快乐.

- 沒有人可以照顧老人家

- 出生下假



2 marks are awarded for this section. Element one is correct, so 1 mark is given. Element 2 is correct, in spite of the ill-formed character 婚, so 1 mark is awarded. In principle, ill formed characters are accepted as long as they have not become a new character with a different meaning. Element 3 contains Pinyin, so 0 mark is awarded. In principle, Pinyin is not accepted. Element 4 is incorrect, so 0 mark is awarded.



Candidates are reminded to write a summary of the passage they listened to rather than transcribing the whole passage they heard.

(ii)

(4)

① 想发展职业

白天晚上都要需要工作

② 付养孩子的费用

大学生照顾当地的老年人



2 marks are awarded for this section. Element one is correct, so 1 mark is given. Element 2 is incorrect, as 白天 and 白天 do not have the same meaning. For this reason, 0 mark is awarded. Element 3 does not indicate who 付养孩子的费用 so 0 mark is awarded. Element 4 is correct, so 1 mark is awarded.



Candidates are reminded to write a summary of the passage they listened to rather than transcribing the whole passage they heard.

Question 4

This is a multiple-choice question. Candidates were required to choose the four correct sentences out of a possible nine, based on the given reading passage. A majority of candidates were successful with this task, and many scored full marks.

Q4 is a reading text about the labour market in Taiwan. This topic comes under Theme 1: The evolving Chinese society/当代华人社会变迁/當代華人社會變遷.

4

(4)

A	☒
B	☒
C	☒
D	☒
E	☒
F	☒
G	☒
H	☒
I	☒



4 marks are awarded as all the boxes ticked are correct.



A maximum of 4 boxes should be ticked.

Question 5

This is an open-response question. For open-response questions candidates do not have to write in full sentences and may respond using single words and phrases. They may use words from the reading text; however, they must make sure that every response provided addresses the question directly and succinctly. Marks will not be awarded to lifted text if the question requires them to manipulate the language in order to render the response(s) accurate to the question.

There are no marks for quality of language in this paper so minor errors and omissions, for example missing a stroke in writing Chinese characters, will be tolerated as long as the message is not ambiguous and does not interfere with communication.

Q5 is a reading passage based on the new rules and regulations involved in the sorting of rubbish in Beijing. It is an open-response question worth 6 marks. In general, candidates performed well on this question.

(a)

(2)

购物中心, 旅游景区

(b)

(1)

没有专门人员帮助 ~~清理~~ ~~垃圾~~

(c)

(1)

垃圾 ~~站~~ 站.

(d)

(1)

养成给垃圾分类的好习惯

(e)

(1)

~~垃圾~~ ~~站~~ ~~站~~ 生活垃圾



(a) 2 marks are awarded as per the mark scheme. (b) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (c) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (d) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (e) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme.



Candidates should read questions carefully and ensure that they address the questions directly and succinctly, in their responses.

Question 6

This is an open-response question. For open-response questions candidates do not have to write

in full sentences and may respond using single words and phrases. They may use words from the reading text; however, they must make sure that every response provided addresses the question directly. Marks will not be awarded to lifted text if the question requires them to manipulate the language in order to render the response(s) accurate to the question.

There are no marks for quality of language in this paper so minor errors and omissions, for example missing a stroke in writing Chinese characters, will be tolerated as long as the message is not ambiguous and does not interfere with communication.

Q6 is a reading text about cultural exchanges between Chinese and British young people. This topic comes under Theme 4: Sino-British Relations/中英关系/中英關係. This is an open-response question.

(g)

让两国教师有机会分享教育经验。(1)



0 mark is awarded to this response, as what is given suggests that this candidate either did not read the question carefully or did not properly understand the question.



Candidates are advised to read all given questions carefully and ensure that their responses address the questions directly and succinctly.

(a)

(1)

促进文化交流

(b)

(1)

所有英国的和中国的高中多

(c)

(2)

网上互动

努力让学生每年都有几天的时间在一起生活,学习。

(d)

(2)

参观当地学校

有名的历史景点

(e)

(1)

大学生的生活

(f)

(2)

推动课程改革

设计长远的发展计划

(g)

(1)

教师交换



(a) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (b) 0 mark is awarded. This question requires candidates to manipulate the language in order to render the response accurate to the question, however, the meaning of the words lifted from the text is ambiguous and the response indicates the candidate's lack of understanding of the text. (c) 2 marks are awarded in total. The first response is correct, so 1 mark is awarded. The second response is also correct, so 1 mark is awarded. (d) 2 marks are awarded in total. The first response is correct, so 1 mark is awarded. The second response is also correct, so 1 mark is awarded. (e) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. (f) 2 marks are awarded in total. The first response is correct, so 1 mark is awarded. The second response is also correct, so 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. This candidate judiciously used words and phrases from the text to address the question directly and succinctly. (g) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme.



Candidates are advised to manipulate the language to render the answer accurate to the question. Candidates are allowed to use words and phrases from the text; however, they should lift words and phrases judiciously and that their response should always address the question directly and succinctly.

Question 7

This is an open-response question. For open-response questions candidates do not have to write in full sentences and may respond using single words and phrases. They may use words from the reading text; however, they must make sure that every response provided addresses the question directly. Marks will not be awarded to lifted text if the question requires them to manipulate the language in order to render the response(s) accurate to the question.

There are no marks for quality of language in this paper so minor errors and omissions, for example missing a stroke in writing Chinese characters, will be tolerated as long as the message is not ambiguous and does not interfere with communication.

Q7 is a reading text about an international film festival. It is an open-response question worth 10 marks. In general, candidates performed well on this question.

(a)

(1)

期五天的第七



0 marks is awarded as the response provided is lifted from the text and the answer provided does not make any sense.



Candidates are reminded that marks will not be awarded if they fail to extract the key information from the text to address the question directly. They are advised to manipulate the language to render the answer accurate to the question.

7

(a)

(1)

五天

(b)

(2)

不同国家的文化距离被拉近

全球观众更加了解中国电影

(c)

(1)

世界各地

(d)

(2)

观众年龄范围广

观众来源广

(e)

(2)

讨论会

圆桌问答活动

(f)

(2)

创新

高质量



(a) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. This candidate provided a phrase which addresses the question correctly, directly and succinctly. (b) 2 marks are awarded as per the mark scheme. This candidate interpreted the meaning correctly and addressed the question asked directly and succinctly. (c) 1 mark is awarded as per the mark scheme. This candidate provided a phrase which addresses the question correctly, directly and succinctly. (d) 2 marks are awarded in total. The first response is correct, so 1 mark is awarded. The second response is also correct, so 1 mark is awarded. This candidate addressed the question directly and succinctly. (e) 2 marks are awarded in total. The first response is correct, so 1 mark is awarded. The second response is also correct, so 1 mark is awarded. Both of this candidate's responses addressed the question correctly, directly and succinctly. (f) 2 marks are awarded in total. This candidate interpreted the meaning correctly and addressed the question correctly, directly and succinctly.



Candidates are advised to manipulate the language to render the answer accurate to the question. Candidates are allowed to use words and phrases from the text; however, they should lift content judiciously and their response should always address the question directly and succinctly.

Question 8

Marking principles

Misspelling is tolerated as long as it does not lead to ambiguity, for example “drought” misspelled as “drowght” would be acceptable but misspelled as “draught” would be unacceptable as this would lead to ambiguity.

Variants are considered as acceptable if they convey the same intended meaning.

Translation is successful if an English speaker would understand the translation without having understood the text in its original language.

Q8 is a translation exercise where candidates are required to translate from Chinese into English. The text is about the megacity of Shanghai. This piece of translation is worth 20 marks. The translation is divided into 20 sense groups and candidates are required to translate each sense group correctly to score the mark. Many candidates were able to translate the text fairly accurately.

the quality of citizen ~~lives~~ lives, the ~~to~~ government
plan to ~~build~~ develop new towns in nearly area.
The government also plan to enlarge the range of
subway to transfer easier.



‘... the government plan to develop new towns in nearly area ...’ ‘the government’ is awarded 0 mark as the candidate failed to translate 当地 (local) from the original text. ‘plan to develop’ is awarded 1 mark. The grammar mistake in this phrase does not affect the understanding of the particular part of the text in Chinese. ‘in nearly area’ is awarded 0 mark as an English speaker would not understand the translation without having understood the text in Chinese.



Candidates are reminded that the translation should be completely based on words and phrases given in the original text. Adding additional words, failing to translate given words and/or phrases, changing the original meaning of the text will result in marks not being awarded for the section(s) concerned.

Shanghai is one of the most developed cities in China. However, this prosperous metropolis is facing many problems: high noise, less green space and serious air pollution. In order to improve the quality of life of citizens, the local government plans to build new towns in the surrounding areas and expand the subway network to facilitate travel.



This is a very good piece of translation and is awarded 20 marks. Although the translation is not perfect, it is successful as an English speaker would easily understand the translation without having understood the text in Chinese.



Candidates are reminded that the translation should be completely based on words and phrases given in the original text. Adding additional words, failing to translate given words and/or phrases, changing the original meaning of the text will result in marks not being awarded for the section(s) concerned.

Paper Summary

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

- Continue to read the questions carefully and address the questions directly and succinctly
- Continue to manipulate the language and use their own words to answer questions
- Words and phrases are sufficient – there is no need to write out full sentences
- Give the exact number of answers as requested. For example, if it is a one-mark question, you should only give one answer; if it is a two-mark question, you should only give two answers
- Write in characters
- Translate the text provided faithfully and ensure that an English speaker would understand the translation without having understood the text in Chinese

Students should be reminded that they should not:

- Give more responses than the number(s) required in multiple choice questions.
- Use Pinyin in their answers.
- Transcribe the audio passage(s) as their answer(s).
- ‘Lift’ whole sentences or paragraphs from the reading passage(s).
- Alter the meaning of the original translation passage by adding or deleting information, or by giving a summary using their own words.

Grade boundaries

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