

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2014

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE
in Chinese(4CN0/01R)
Paper 1R: Listening

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International GCSE Chinese Paper 1R Listening Examiner Report

Overview

This is the first assessment of this International GCSE specification. This listening paper contributes 25% of the qualification.

The listening was assessed through an examination paper which lasted for 40 minutes, with an extra 5 minutes of reading time. The total mark for the paper was 50.

Both Cantonese and Mandarin options were available. The paper is set and marked by Edexcel.

The examination covers a range of topic areas as follows:

home and abroad
education and employment
house, home and daily routines
the modern world and the environment
social activities, fitness and health.

Students are required to listen to a range of factual and non-factual material of varying lengths, in different contexts and in different registers.

The extracts will increase in length. The first passages will be the shortest and will be tested through non-verbal responses, such as ticked boxes or matching exercises. Subsequent passages will be tested through a range of question types, both verbal and non-verbal.

Questions 1, 2, 3, 6, 8

These were picture-based box-ticking questions. The majority of students handled Q1-Q3 very well and scored full marks. In Q6 and Q8 the extracts were longer and more complicated; some students failed to identify the correct information and lost some marks, such as 6(ii) and 8(iii).

Questions 4, 5, 7, 9

These were multiple-choice questions with verbal content. Students were required to listen to a range of factual and non-factual material of varying lengths, in different contexts, read questions and make some choices in Chinese, selecting the correct answers accordingly. The majority of students managed these questions well and only missed few marks in 7(ii), 9(iii), 9(iv) and 9(vi).

Question 10

This question was set in the target language and required answers in Chinese characters; the full mark was 7.

This was the most challenging question of the paper. Students were required to quickly identify the relevant and accurate information from the densely compacted extract, and provided answers in a correct written form.

The majority of students secured 2 or more marks in this question from 10(i), 10(iii) and 10(vi) since numerical answers were accepted. Please note that in 10(vi) the measure word 种 which appeared in the question was essential to form the correct answer.

Students with good language ability also scored well for 10(ii) and 10(iv) which involved more Chinese character writing.

The strongest students managed to score well in 10(v) and 10(vii) which required the ability to identify the most relevant information and provide accurate, lengthy answers. For 10(v) 音乐家 was not the correct answer.

The correct answer was '表演/演出 OR 总是带着他(沈洋)'. Similarly, 10(vii) the correct answer was '唱歌唱得更好', students were required to use the key word 更 to secure the mark.

Apart from good listening comprehension skills, students who aim at an A grade must make sure they are familiar with everyday vocabulary and are able to write these in the correct forms.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

