

Examiners' Report/  
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2013

GCSE Chinese (5CN01)  
Paper 1F Listening and Understanding  
in Chinese

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**GCSE Chinese**  
**Paper 1 Foundation Tier**  
**Listening and Understanding in Chinese**  
**Examiner Report**

It is pleasing to note that the majority of students were appropriately entered at the correct level and they were in general, familiar with the specification and the list of minimum core vocabulary. The last questions that required responses in English continued to be the one that the majority of students found most challenging.

Some questions tested students' ability to identify key words from familiar topics, these included, Q1, Q2, Q5, Q6 and Q9.

Q1, Q6 and Q9 proved to be accessible. They were very well answered except 'tennis' in Q6(i) where a number of students lost the 1 mark.

Q2 had a mixed response. 'Restaurant' Q2(ii) and 'supermarket' Q2(iv) were expected to be universally known but seemed to cause problems for half of the students.

Q5 was generally well answered. All students were able to score some marks with 'rainy' and 'hot' only causing a few issues.

It is encouraging to find that students across the ability ranges made a very good effort to attempt the crossover questions (Q3, Q4, Q7 and Q8). All were able to score some marks from these 4 questions.

Q3 proved to be relatively accessible to foundation tier. All students were able to score at least 1 mark. Only a small number of students did not pick up that 'the teacher is good' was the correct explanation in Q3(i). More able students had no difficulties scoring another 2 marks from Q3(ii) and Q3(iii).

Q4 and Q7 proved appropriately challenging.

Q4(iii) invited more incorrect answers with two thirds of students choosing 11:00am instead of the correct answer 1:00pm. Students are advised to pay

attention to all of the details displayed on the page when answering such questions. As this question was about time, the word '下午' is crucial and should not only focus on the number 'one'. However, the majority scored well on Q4(iv) 'free'. This could be evidence that students had listened to the full sentence and noted the part that said 'no need to buy tickets' rather than simply relying on the more difficult keyword '免費/免费'.

In Q7, almost all students scored at least 1 mark to Q7(ii) 'elder brother'.

However in general students did not perform as well as expected. '售票處/售票处' was unknown to a significant number of students. It was surprising to note that many more able students did not score on Q7(i) and /or Q7(iv), which were 'train' and 'by car'. Instead there was evidence of students guessing the answers.

Q8 proved to be more demanding than expected. A significant number of students did not score any correct answers, although all four items are closely related to everyday activities and. For example, 'pet', an item that had caused no problems in previous years, proved to be difficult for around two thirds of the students this year. The term 'Fast food restaurant' was first tested last year and proved successful with candidates. However, this year only a quarter of the students could associate this term with option E.

Q10, being different type of question, continued to prove very challenging for students. A sizeable number of did not have problem with 'credit card'. But only about a quarter of students scored '毛衣' correctly. There was evidence that the majority did understand the word '衣' and associated it with 'clothing'. While a fifth of the students were confident with the word 'yellow', some were indecisive and chose 'green'. There were others who relied on guessing and gave various colours. There was also clear evidence that students were weak at numbers. A significant majority of the answers given were guesswork; only a few were able to provide the correct answer '150' or part of the figure such as 50 or 100.

**Grade Boundaries**

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

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