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Examiners' Report June 2010

GCSE Chinese 5CN01 1H

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Paper 1, higher tier (5CN01 1H): Listening & Understanding

The entry for the higher tier was bigger than the foundation but still considerably small compared to the legacy specification. It was pleasing to note that candidates had been appropriately entered at the correct level.

Candidates made a good effort to answer all the questions set. As expected, the crossover questions (Q1, Q2, Q5 and Q6) were approached with more confidence than by the candidates on the foundation paper, particularly the question on *buying a sweater*. *Colours* caused few problems to candidates at this level but responses were mixed regarding *continents* and *weather*.

Candidates responded really well to Q3, possibly due to working through the specimen paper. Q4 did not cause problems for the majority of the candidates, showing good evidence that they were properly trained to comprehend longer sentences and to recognize opinions.

Directions continues to invite more incorrect answers as shown by the responses to both Q5 ('*next to*') and Q7 ('*north*').

The last two questions required candidates to provide answers in English and this proved demanding. Q9, part a(ii) required a simple answer of either *New Year's day* or *1st January* but statistics showed that performance was disappointing. The majority of candidates knew that there were free tickets but only the stronger ones were able to identify the condition precisely ('*must be with adults*') while weaker candidates made up an incorrect answer. Q10 distinguished between the able candidates who understood what they were listening to and the weaker candidates who were able to catch one or two keywords but then developed their answer with guesswork.

Grade Boundaries

Grade	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Raw mark boundary	40	34	30	26	23	16	12	0
Uniform mark scale boundary	60	54	48	42	36	30	27	0

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