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Examiners' Report June 2010

GCSE Chinese 5CN03 3F

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Paper 3, foundation tier (5CN03 3F): Reading and Understanding

This is the new syllabus paper to test candidates' reading comprehension through a variety of texts which this year included matching basic vocabulary to pictures, a birthday invitation, a short letter, personal information, an advertisement and questions on a short passage.

The paper is targeted at candidates with a basic understanding of the Chinese language. Overall, candidates performed reasonably well, exhibiting a basic level of reading comprehension.

Q1 and Q2 tested basic vocabulary within the syllabus requiring candidates to match pictures to characters. Candidates responded reasonably well to these questions. However, Q1 part (i), *pen*, and part (iv), *money*, proved to be more challenging.

Q3 required candidates to respond to questions based on a short passage by selecting from three optional answers. This was generally well handled by candidates except for part (ii) where only the more able candidates were able to identify *football* as the correct answer.

Q4 required candidates to respond to questions on *weather* which proved to challenge for some candidates.

Q5, which focussed on *occupations*, was handled well by stronger candidates taking this paper and proved to be one of the key differentiator questions.

Q6 parts (ii) and (iv), requiring candidates to identify the characters for *magazine* and *telephone* respectively, also proved to be a challenge for candidates.

Candidates generally performed well on Q7 and Q8. However, Q7 part (i) appeared to be a key differentiator in relation to candidates' ability to correctly interpret the answer as *basketball*.

Q9 (c) and (d) generally elicited good responses from most candidates. Part (b), which required candidates to identify the number *14*, however, proved more of a challenge to candidates than had been anticipated.

Grade Boundaries

Grade	Max Mark	C	D	E	F	G	U
Raw mark boundary	40	30	25	20	15	10	0
Uniform mark scale boundary	41	36	30	24	18	12	0

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