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Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Chinese (1CN0)
Paper 3H

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Introduction

This paper assesses the candidates' understanding of written Chinese across a range of different types of texts.

Students need to:

- identify the overall message, key points, details and opinions in texts
- deduce meaning from a variety of written texts
- recognise the relationship between past, present and future events
- understand texts, organise and present relevant details, and where appropriate, draw inferences in context and recognise implicit meaning
- recognise and respond to key information, important themes and ideas in more extended written text, including authentic sources, adapted and abridged as appropriate, by being able to extract information and answer questions.

This paper has a total of 50 marks and consists of 10 questions. It comprises two sections. Candidates must answer all questions from each of the two sections. Section A has nine questions set in English. Question types comprise both multiple-response and short-answer open response questions. The instructions to candidates are in English. Section B contains one translation passage from Chinese into English. The instructions to students are in English.

The assessment is available in traditional and simplified characters. All questions and texts are printed twice, once with texts using traditional/full characters and once with texts in simplified characters. Candidates select the most appropriate version, but not both.

Four of the questions are common to both Foundation and Higher tiers.

The use of dictionaries is not permitted.

The total assessment time is 1 hour 5 minutes in length.

Overall performance

In general, candidates responded very well to all questions in Section A and Section B. They were able to identify the overall message, key points, details and opinions in texts; they were able to deduce meaning and recognise and respond to key information and important ideas in more extended written texts.

Question 1

This crossover question addressed the theme of *Identity and Culture* and the topic of Cultural life (sport) and also appeared in the Foundation Tier paper Q5. In questions of this nature, candidates are required to understand sections of text which may contain distractors and to identify the message as well as key points, details and opinions.

A large number of candidates were able to answer the questions correctly.

Question 3

This literary text was a crossover question set in the *Identity and culture* and the topic of Who am I, and it also appeared in the Foundation Tier paper Q8. In this question, candidates had to recognise and respond to key information and ideas in a more extended authentic text, deducing meaning.

The success rate for 3(a), 3(b) and 3(d) were high. However, 3(c) seemed to have presented some difficulty for many candidates.

Overall, candidates are reminded to base their answers solely on the text given.

Question 4

This crossover question addressed the theme of *Future aspirations, study and work* and the topic of Work (careers and professions), and it also appeared in the Foundation Tier paper Q9. Candidates were required to read information about career choices to complete the given sentences. Most candidates were successful in completing this task.

Question 5

This question addressed the theme of *Identity and Culture* and the topic Who am I (role models). Most candidates attempted to answer all of the questions, and many candidates were successful in doing so. Candidates should be reminded that the responses do not need to be written in full sentences and that only responses with unambiguous meaning are accepted.

Question 7

This question addressed the theme of *School* and the topic of What school is like (school day). Candidates were required to read four young people's school days and identify the appropriate names for each part of this question (a)–(d). While most candidates were successful in answering (a), (b) and (c), some candidates found (d) somewhat challenging.

For questions (e) and (f), candidates needed to answer questions on the text in English. Candidates are reminded that they should base their answers solely on the text given.

Question 8

This question addressed the theme of *Identity and Culture* and the topic of Daily life (social media and technology). This text was adapted from an online article about social media. The performance on this question was mixed. Some candidates were more successful than others with this question. Candidates should be reminded that the responses do not need to be written in full sentences and that only correct responses with unambiguous meaning are accepted. Candidates are also reminded that they should base their answers solely on the text given.

Question 9

This question addressed the theme of *International aspirations, study and work* and the topic of Bringing the world together (music events). Candidates were required to read a text adapted from an online article on an international music festival.

In part 9(a), candidates had to read seven statements and to choose three which were correct according to the text. Many candidates were successful in doing so. A few candidates either picked only one or two answers, and a few chose four or even five. Candidates are reminded that they should pick only three answers as instructed.

In part 9(b) and 9(c), candidates needed to read the same text to answer the given two questions in English. Many candidates seemed to find (b) and (c) challenging. Some candidates were unable to give the words 'journalist/reporter' and 'singer' in English.

Question 10

This translation question addressed the theme of *Local area, holiday and travel*. The passage contained sentences which were all set within the same theme and included higher-tier structures and vocabulary. Candidates are expected to demonstrate an ability to transfer meaning accurately into English. Many candidates achieved four or more of the seven marks available for this question.

Summary

Most candidates achieved very good success. Some candidates performed significantly better than others. Based on the overall performance in this paper, candidates are offered the following advice :

- Make sure that you know the words from the vocabulary lists (Foundation and Higher) well, as all of the questions are set based on the vocabulary list given in the specification.
- Some questions require you to process the information and draw inferences, hence it is important to understand each paragraph and the entire text as a whole.
- Read the questions carefully and address the questions asked directly. The responses provided should be based solely on the given text. Meanwhile, you need to ensure that what you write expresses clearly what you intend to say. Ambiguous responses are not accepted. While you can write in full sentences, candidates should note that responses containing incorrect details will not be accepted.
- You should give only one response for a one-mark question, two responses for a two-mark question and so on. You should not use slashes / or brackets (). If you use a slash, only the response given before the slash is accepted for a one-mark question. Information given in brackets () is not accepted.