

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2011

International GCSE

Chinese (4CN0) Paper 1

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Listening

This was the first examination for Edexcel International GCSE in Chinese (4CNO). The paper was assessed through an examination paper lasting 30 minutes, plus 5 minutes' reading time. The paper was set and marked by Edexcel. The total number of marks for the paper was 30. A small number of queries were received about the duration of the recording. Edexcel will be offering guidance for this on the front cover of the examination paper and on the recording to provide more clarity.

Candidates' achievements were excellent in most of the questions set.

As expected, Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4 and Q5 were approached with confidence by almost all candidates showing good evidence that they were properly trained on a wide variety of appropriate topics with a good understanding of relevant vocabulary.

Q6 was the most challenging part of the paper. It required responses to be written in Chinese characters. Evidence showed that whilst some candidates understood the questions they were unable to respond correctly in Chinese. Candidates who are aiming at an A grade must familiarise themselves with and practice writing basic daily vocabulary such as numbers, dates, nationalities, hobbies, public transport, job titles, public buildings, school life etc.

Grade Boundaries

The modern foreign languages specifications share a common design, but the assessments in different languages are not identical. Grade boundaries at unit level reflect these differences in assessments, ensuring that candidate outcomes across these specifications are comparable at specification level.

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>

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