



# Examiners' Report

## Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2023

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE  
In Chinese (4CN1) Paper 01

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## Overview

This listening paper accounts for 25% of the qualification. It is assessed through an examination paper which lasts for 30 minutes, with an extra 5 minutes of reading time. The total mark for the paper is 40. Both Cantonese and Mandarin options are available.

This paper assesses listening skills across five topic areas:

- Home and abroad
- Education and employment
- Personal life and relationships
- The world around us
- Social activities, fitness and health.

This paper will consist of seven tasks, each based on a single recorded text. The topics of the listening texts will be taken from a range of different situations, from both everyday life and academic contexts with which candidates will be familiar.

The examination will begin with shorter statements, which build into short paragraphs and longer conversations. Task types demand a variety of input from candidates and include multiple-choice, multiple-matching, note-taking and gap-fill questions.

All questions and instructions to students are in English. Candidates are required to produce written responses in English. Correct spelling and grammatical accuracy will not be a requirement as long as the candidate's response is comprehensible.

## General Comments

### Questions 1, 2

These were picture-based box-ticking questions. Q1 consisted short sentences and Q2 was a dialogue between few people and more complicated. Most candidates did well in these questions.

### Question 3

This question requires candidates to give answers in close responses. They are provided with a short set of lines of notes containing six gaps. A range of responses should be demanded, which needs to be made clear from the bulleted text.

Most candidates did very well in the question which provided correct close responses' answers. However, a smaller number of candidates did not read the question properly. Instead of "Where", some students answered "What" in 3b, i.e. "Dim sum" (点心) instead of the answer "Chinese restaurant" (中国餐馆). Students could highlight the question words so that they would not give the wrong answers.

Also, a small amount students answered "netball" (篮网球) instead of "tennis" (网球) in 3c.

#### Questions 4

The question requires candidates to match the speakers' opinions in three different categories (positive/negative/both). Most candidates did well in this question but not 4a.

In Q4a, it requires the candidate to use cognitive abilities to understand the question instead of just to catch the key phrases. The transcript said "I like Japanese lessons very much but it is not available here." (我很喜欢日语课, 但是这里没有。) Even though "But" is used, the speaker expressed his frustration by not having what he liked in the school. It is negative.

#### Questions 5

These were multiple-choice questions with verbal content. Candidates were required to listen to some factual and non-factual material of varying lengths, in different contexts, read questions and select the correct answers accordingly. Candidates did well in these questions.

#### Questions 6

These were sentence completion questions. Candidates are provided with twelve words in a box plus an example (13 total) which they must match to what is being said.

The performance of candidates in this question was fairly good. However, some students put a noun "department store" (百货公司) instead of an adjective "crowded" (人多) in 6f. It does not fit in the question.

#### Questions 7

This was the most challenging question of this listening paper. Students were required to identify the advantages and disadvantages from the densely compacted dialogue. Most candidates did fairly well in this question.

However, some candidates did not use the most suitable terms to answer the questions or miss the keywords in their answers. For example, in Q7a, we expected that the candidates answered "helps to apply for the university" (对对申请大学很有帮助), some candidates missed the keyword "apply", which is inadequate.

Also, when the transcript said "poor health" (身体不太好), some candidates interpreted it as "sick", some even answered "weak immune system". Even though they might be similar, candidates are expected to use literal/ simple terms which is exactly the same in the transcript.

**Tips**

Candidates should use the reading time available to think careful about the questions asked. Answers which do not provide key/ important information may not get marks. They also need to make sure that the correct time/ date notations should be used.

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