



Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

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

Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications are awarded by Pearson, the UK's largest awarding body. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications websites at www.edexcel.com or www.btec.co.uk. Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at www.edexcel.com/contactus.

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Pearson aspires to be the world's leading learning company. Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your candidates at: www.pearson.com/uk

Summer 2024

Publications Code 4CN1_01R_2406_ER

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2024

International GCSE/Edexcel Certificate Chinese Paper 1 Listening Examiners' Report

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

These were picture-based box-ticking questions. Q1 consisted short sentences. Most candidates did fairly well in this question.

Questions 2

These were picture-based box-ticking questions. Q2 was a dialogue between few people and more complicated. Candidates are provided with pictures and must identify what is being mentioned. 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 is required, which is clear from the layout of the questions.

Most candidates did fairly well in the question Q3a, Q3c and Q3e, which provided correct answers. However, some candidates did not do so well in Q3b. Candidates are expected to write down the correct answer of “lakes” (湖) but some wrote down “rivers”.

In Q3d, some candidates wrote down the answer as “photocards”, which is incorrect. The correct answer is “postcards” (明信片).

Questions 4

The question requires candidates to match the speakers’ opinions in three different categories (positive/negative/both). Most candidates managed this question quite well except for Q4d.

In Q4d, the transcript said “I like eating western dishes but there are not many western restaurants in Taipei.” (我最喜欢吃西餐，但是台北的西餐厅不多。) This statement shows the frustration of the speaker and thus it is negative. Even though the term “but” is used, it might not always have a contrast meaning.

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 fairly well in these questions.

In Q5d, some candidates answered “languages” (外语班) instead of “drama” (戏剧班). However, the transcript mentioned that the language class was “full” (满了). There are some distractors so that candidates should listen to the questions carefully.

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.

In Q6e, the transcript mentioned that Xiaomei wanted to “have her own business” (有自己的生意). This is not a straightforward question as the candidates are expected to answer “boss”. Sometimes candidates are required to convert the verbs in the transcript into nouns or vice versa.

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.

Even though full sentences are not required in Q7, some students did not use correct English grammar structures and terms which caused ambiguity. In Q7b, some candidates answered “Do not want to leave good friends” instead of “Do not want to leave good neighbours”.

In Q7f, the transcript mentioned “do not have a passport” (没有护照). Some candidates, however, answered “do not have a visa”. Candidates should pay attention that the most suitable terms have to be used but not some similar terms which may carry different meanings.

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. Also, the most suitable terms have to be used but not the terms may have different meanings.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-boundaries.html>

