



Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2025

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE

In Chinese (4CN1)

Paper 01R: Listening

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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 of short sentences. Most candidates did well in this question.

Questions 2

These were picture-based box-ticking questions. Q2 was a dialogue between a 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 clear responses is required.

Most candidates did fairly very well in the question Q3a, Q3c and Q3e, but did not do so well in Q3b and Q3d. In Q3b, candidates are expected to write down the correct answer of “juice” (果汁) but some wrote down “fruit” (水果).

In Q3d, the question asks about the season the library is most crowded, the correct answer is “summer” (夏天), some candidates wrote down “have air conditioner”. Even though it is mentioned in the transcript, it is not the correct answer. Candidates should read the questions carefully.

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 Q4a.

In Q4a, the transcript said “I often watch TV drama but I have no time today.” (我常看电视剧，不过今天没时间。) This statement shows the frustration of the speaker and thus it is negative. Even though the term “but” (不过) is used, it might not always have a contrasting 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 fine 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.

In Q6c, the transcript mentioned that Dadong’s neighbourhood has three churches (这里有三间教堂). Even this question is straightforward, candidates did not do very well. There are some uncommon vocabularies which candidates are expected to learn in this curriculum. They could be found in the specification document.

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 terms which caused ambiguity. In Q7b, some candidates answered “No transport” or “Small bus” instead of “Few/ Lack of buses”.

In Q7f, the transcript mentioned “make the environment more beautiful” (美化环境). Some candidates, however, answered “protect the environment”. 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

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