

Examiners' Report June 2022

GCE Chinese (spoken Mandarin/spoken Cantonese) 9CN0 02



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June 2022

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Introduction

The exam took place in June 2022. This paper includes a translation exercise and two written responses to works. The total mark for this paper is 120.

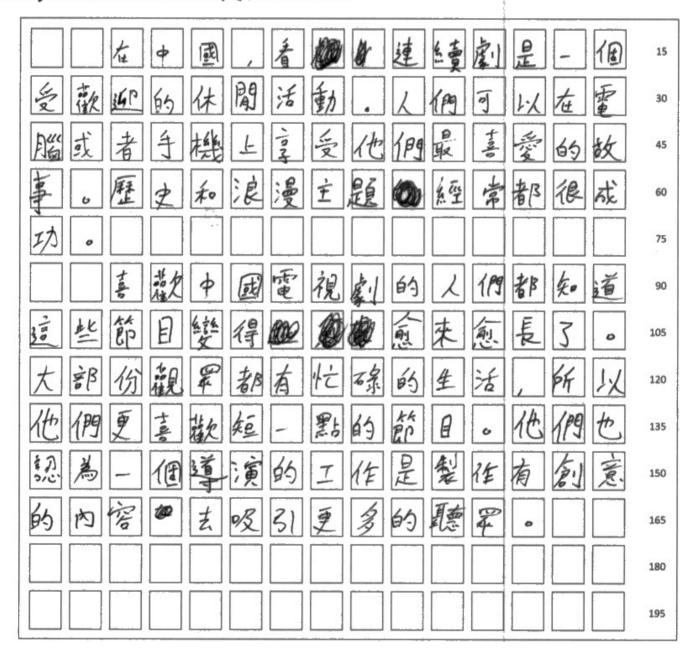
Candidates must answer question 1 in Section A by translating an English text into a Chinese text. In addition, they must answer either two literary works from Section B or one literary work from Section B and one film from Section C.

In Section A question 1 (20 marks), the content of this year's passage was based on "TV", an aspect under sub-theme "Cultural Activities" of theme 2 "Chinese Culture". It is divided into 20 discrete language sections. Each correctly-translated section is given 1 mark.

Section B consists of three questions (question 2, question 3 and question 4) on different literary works. Section C consists of three questions (question 5, question 6 and question 7) on different films. Each essay is assessed based on the following three categories: critical and analytical response (20 marks); range of grammatical structures and vocabulary (20 marks); and accuracy of language (10 marks).

Question 1

Write your answer to Section A, Question 1 here:





This was a very competent piece of translation which made only one mistake in the last word of the last section, "audiences" (聽眾/听众). The answer for this section is 觀眾/观众.

This response scored 19 marks.



This example demonstrated very good translation skills. However, candidates should pay great attention to the contextual meaning of some common words. While the word "audiences" can mean 觀眾/观众 and 聽眾/听众, 觀眾/听众best fits the original text, which is about drama series.

Write your answer to Section A, Question 1 here:

在中国,看电视是个嘉受欢迎的娱	15
乐进动。人们可以在电脑或者手机	30
享受他们最喜欢的故事在他们电脑	45
或者手机上。历史和爱情主题经常	60
很成工。	75
爱看中国电视剧的人知通这些频道	90
垂越来越长了。大部份观看着都很	105
恒,所以他们翼向于短属一点的频	120
道。他们也觉得导演的工作是做出	135
魔瓣彩的内容来吸引更多的观众。	150
	165
	180
	195



Although this translation had rendered the entire original text, there were a number of mistakes, which are as follows:

Section 2: watching drama series is (看電視是/看电视是)

Answer: 電視連續劇/电视连续剧 or 連續劇/连续剧

Section 3: a popular leisure activity (受歡迎的娛樂活動/受欢迎的娱乐活

动)

Answer: 休閒/休闲

Section 4: People can enjoy their favourite stories (人們可以享受他們最喜歡的故事……/人们可以享受他们最喜欢的故事……)

Answer: wrong word order: 人們可以......享受他們最喜歡的故事/人们可以......享受他们最喜欢的故事

Section 9: often very successful (經常很成工/经常很成工)

Answer: wrong Chinese character - 功/功

Section 11: know that these programmes (知道這些頻道/知道这些频道)

Answer:節目/节目

Section 14: have a hectic life (都很忙/都很忙)

Answer: the meaning of "life" was missing: 生活忙碌/生活忙碌

Section 15: so they prefer (所以他們 向於/所以他们 向于)

Answer:更喜歡/更喜欢

Section 19: to produce creative content (做出精彩的内容/做出精彩的内

容)

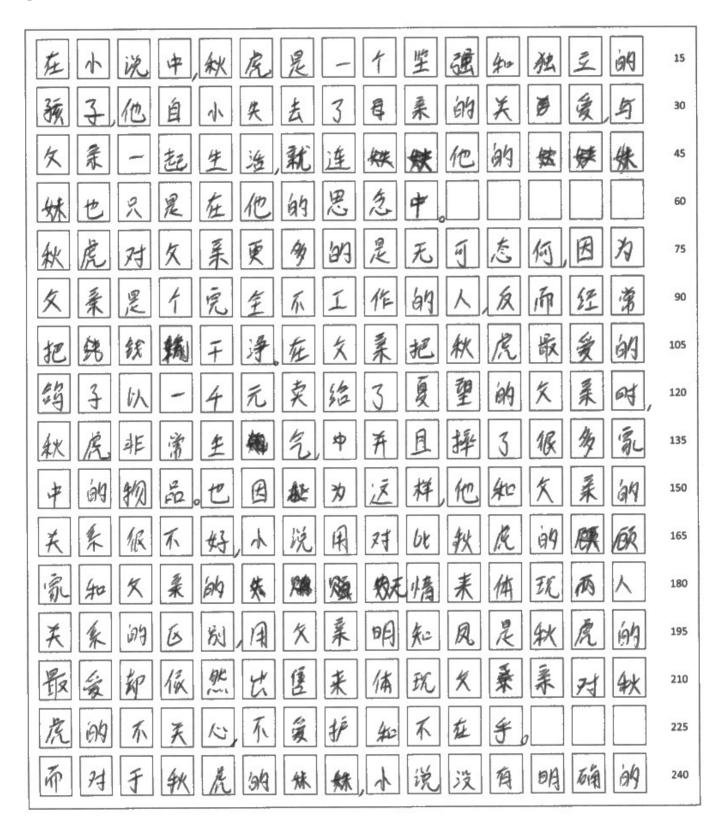
Answer: 具創意的/具创意的

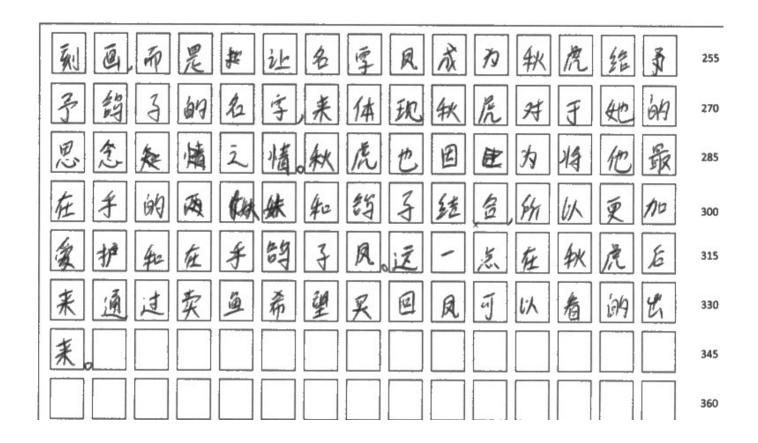
This answer scored 12 marks.



To achieve good marks, candidates should proofread their translation carefully. Omission of the original meaning and wrong word order will lead to loss of marks.

Question 2 (x)







In question 2, candidates were asked to analyse how the novel expresses Qiuhu's feelings towards his family members.

This essay was able to make a couple of relevant responses to the question, such as, Qiuhu's fury towards his father through his rampaging actions; naming the pigeon Feng to project his love for his sister.

However, the approach tended to be descriptive rather than analytical.

While the essay mentioned the method of "contrast", the analysis was not well justified.

There was hardly any response about Qiuhu's feelings towards his mother in the essay.

This response scored a total of 35 marks.

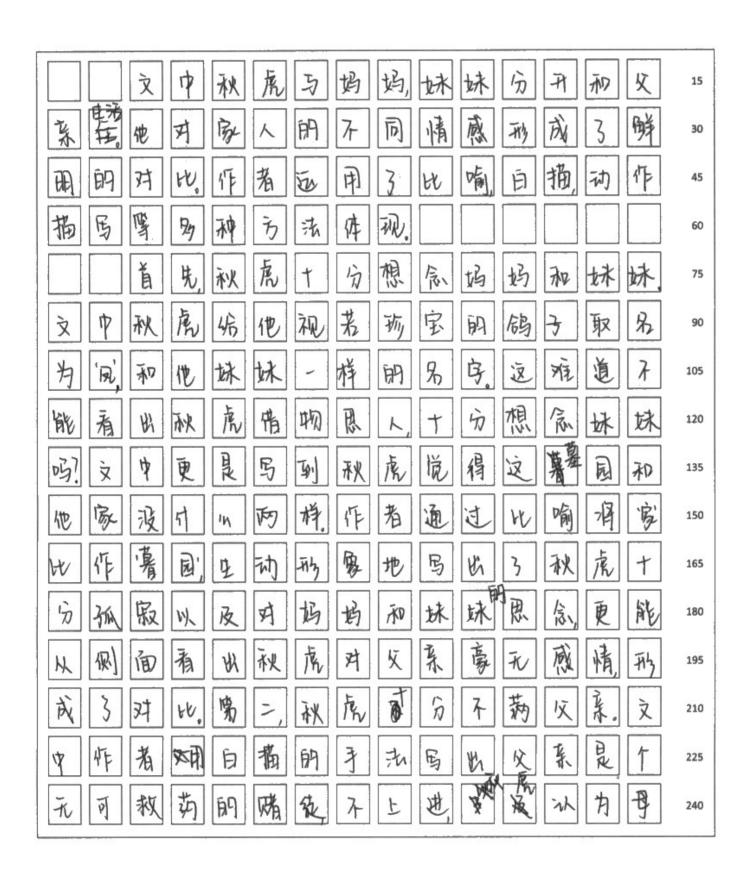
Accuracy of language: 8 marks

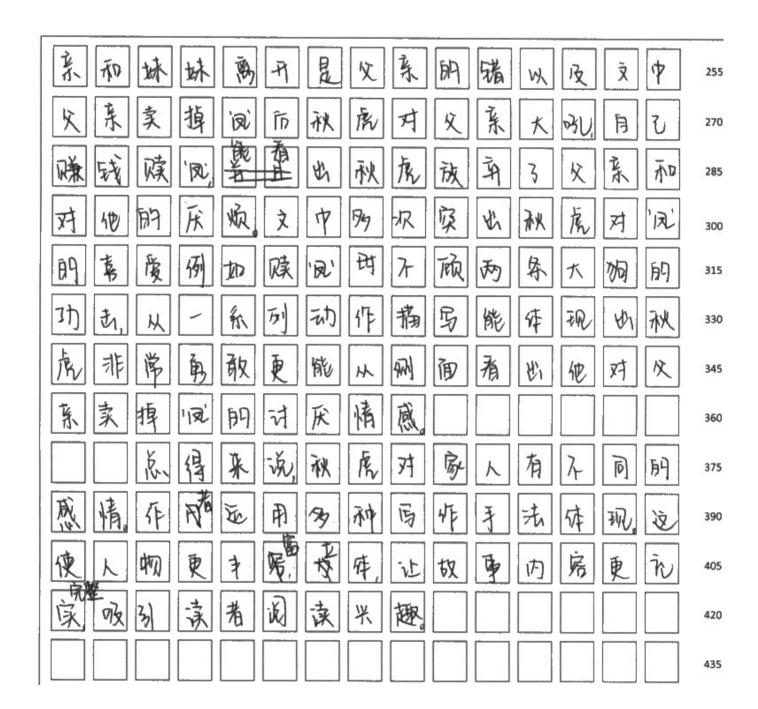
Critical and analytical response: 13 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 14 marks



In order to achieve higher marks, the candidates need to focus on the key words in the question: "how" and "family members" (ie father, mother and sister), and ensure that the approach of writing is consistently relevant to the question.







This essay contained relevant response to the question throughout, including naming the pigeon Feng to project Qiuhu's love for his sister; the setting of a graveyard as a comparison/simile to express his loneliness and that he missed his mother; his discontentment against his father by means of a straightforward approach of writing in the writing; and his fury towards his father through his reaction when he found out that his father sold Feng.

This essay started with a concise introduction and ended with a logical conclusion.

There was consistent use of terminology appropriate for literary analysis. The writing was coherent.

This response scored 47 marks.

Accuracy of language: 10 marks

Critical and analytical response: 18 marks

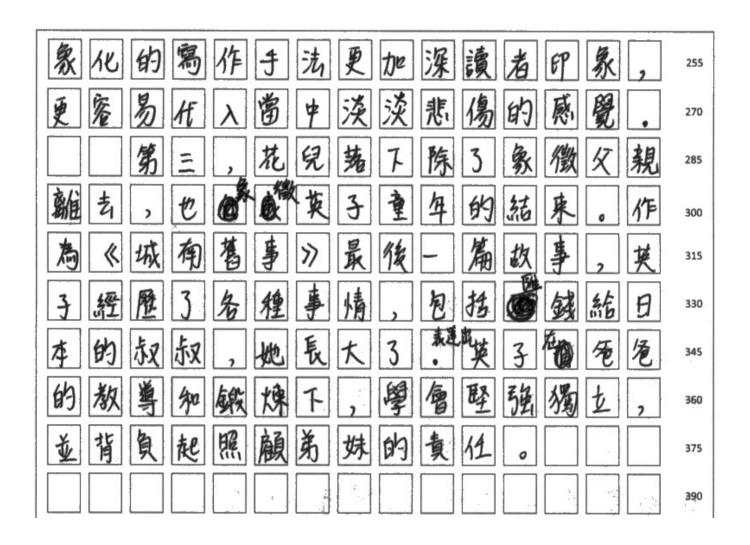
Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 19 marks



Candidates are advised to make detailed arguments supported by appropriately selected evidence from the work, as demonstrated in this essay.

Question 3 (x)

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後	來	爸	惫	病	倒	7	47	3	時	間	和	精	神	打	165
理	龙	,	龙	兒	也	開	始	衰	落	0	到	最	後	全	180
部	花	兒	都	落	7	,	象	徴	巵	奄	E	红	逝	去	195
0	表	面	意	思	中	寶	體	的	花	和	象	徴	意	田心	210
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In question 3, candidates were expected to examine the roles played by different flowers in "Papa's flowers have fallen".

On the whole, critical analysis of the roles of different flowers was evident with some appropriate interpretations, sometimes justified by appropriately selected evidence from the work.

The essay started with a very good analysis of the role of the oleander on Yingzi's graduation day.

Then the essay lost focus on the question and was unable to specify the names of the flowers in the garden and the flowers which symbolised her father's death at the end of the story.

This response scored 31 marks.

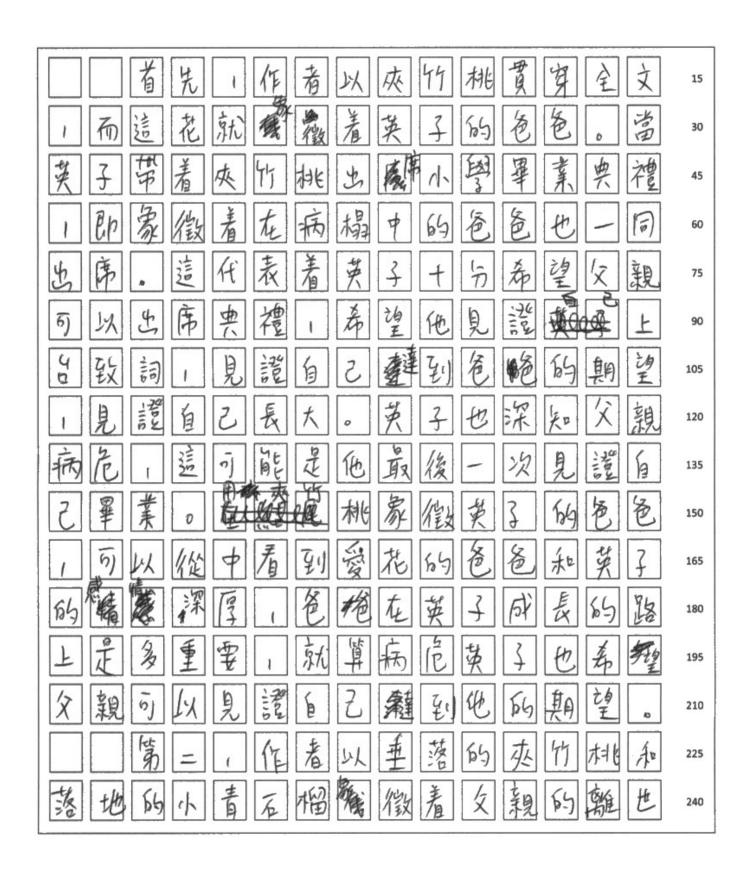
Accuracy of language: 8 marks

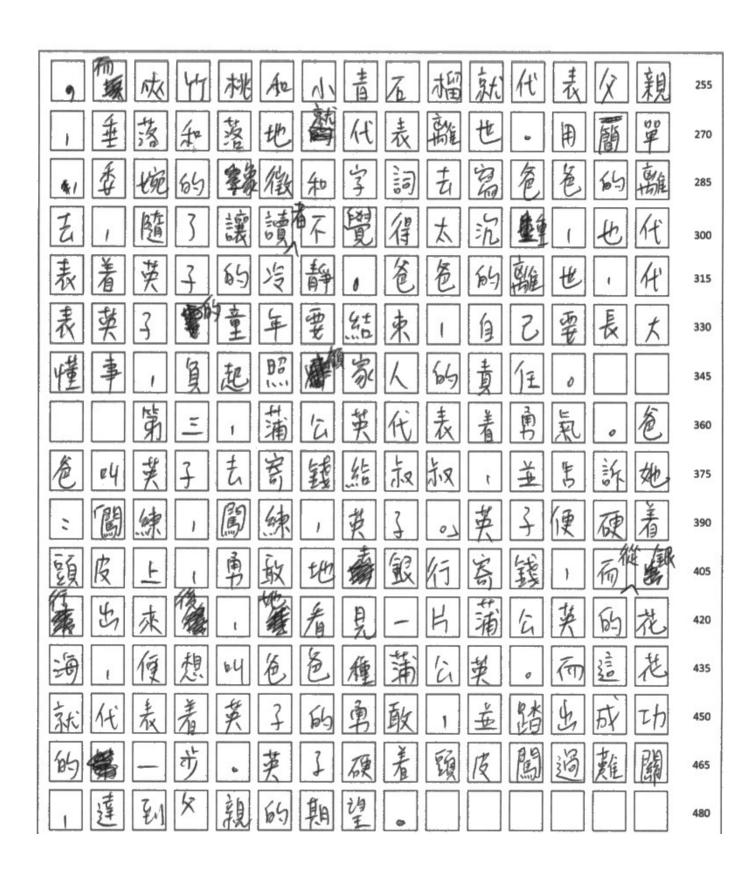
Critical and analytical response: 11 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 12 marks



There is room for improvement in addressing the question. There are a total of six different flowers in the novel. It would have improved the response a lot if more details of the roles of some flowers could have been provided.







The essay made an in-depth and accurate analysis of the following three flowers with appropriately selected evidence from the work:

- 1) the oleander on Yingzi's graduation day to represent her father's spiritual presence;
- 2) the drooping oleander and the fallen pomegranates at the end of the story to symbolise her father's death and her farewell to childhood:
- 3) the dandelions after Yingzi left the bank to demonstrate her bravery and sense of achievement.

The writing was coherent with good use of complex language and literary terminology.

This response scored 47 marks.

Accuracy of language: 10 marks

Critical and analytical response: 18 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 19 marks



To gain high marks, candidates are advised to demonstrate their deep understanding of the novel, as shown by this essay. Well-selected evidence from the work is also essential.

Question 4 (x)







In question 4, candidates were asked to analyse what writing methods the author employs to depict the character image of Second Sister Yang.

This essay was able to make relevant response to the question throughout by illustrating the methods of Yang's use of language, descriptions of her appearance and action, contrast and reminiscence.

This response scored 45 marks.

Accuracy of language: 10 marks

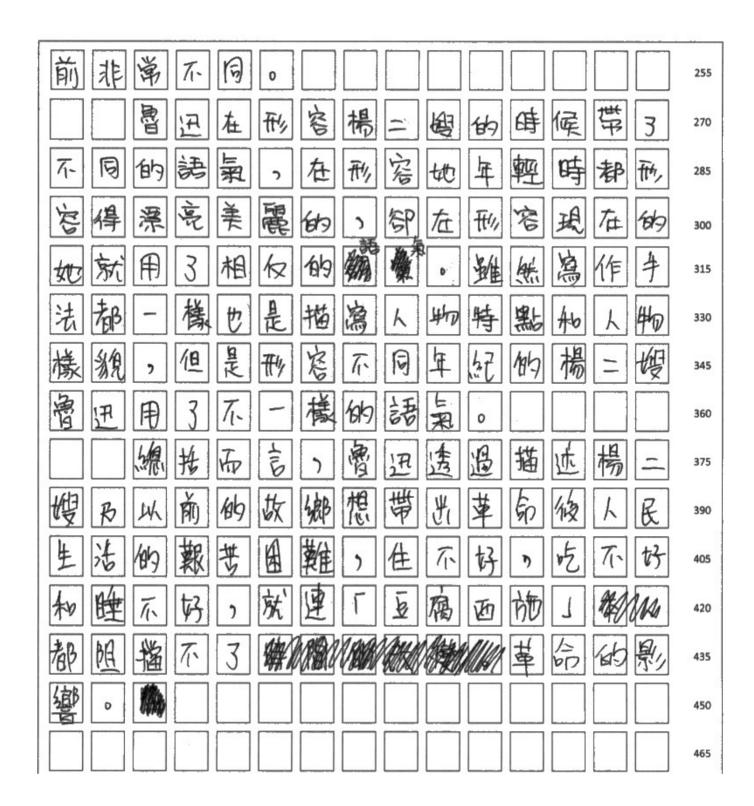
Critical and analytical response: 17 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 18 marks



To make further improvement, the essay needs to distinguish between the author and the narrator "I", and provide more quotes from the novel.

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沒	10	故	鄉	現	在	Æ	t	成	K	段	探	望	(ab)	45
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The essay related to the fiction, but often lost focus on the question, which expected the analysis of "writing methods".

The essay described the differences of Second Sister Yang between the past and present, her appearances. The use of the term "tone" (yu qi) in the second half of the essay was unclear and showed confusion.

This response scored 23 marks.

Accuracy of language: 6 marks

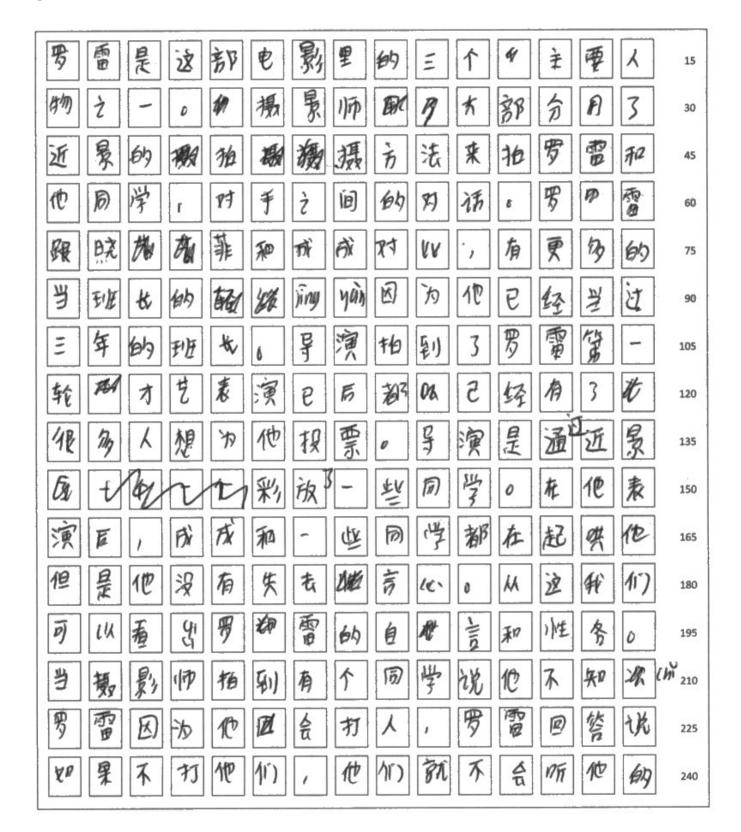
Critical and analytical response: 8 marks

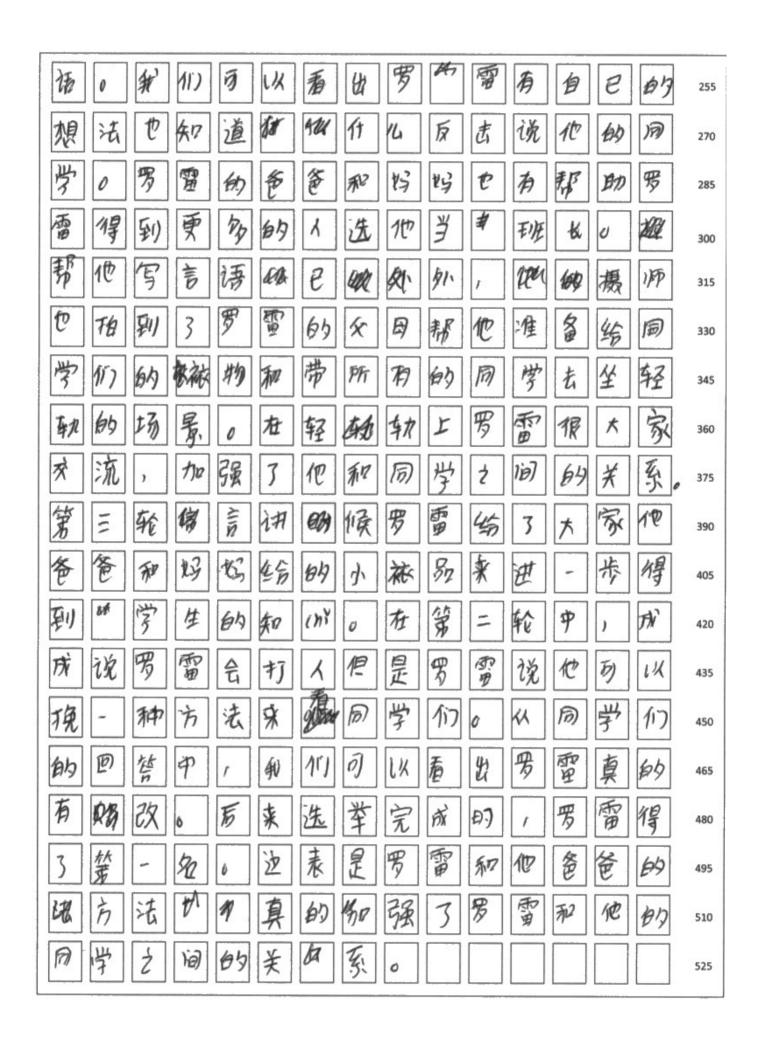
Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 9 marks



To avoid confusion, candidates are advised to focus on the key words in the question, ie writing methods. Some exploration of literary devices is essential to address the demand of this essay.

Question 5







The first half of this long essay was not well organised with some misinterpretations (eg a lot of people wanted to vote for Luo Lei at the first round of competition) and inadequate expansion (eg no details about the interviews of his classmates).

The second half of the essay contained some relevant scenes (eg some classmates said that they did not support Luo Lei because he hit people; the metro ride)

The essay contained a number of wrong characters, and pinyin, which are not acceptable in Chinese writing.

This response scored 36 marks.

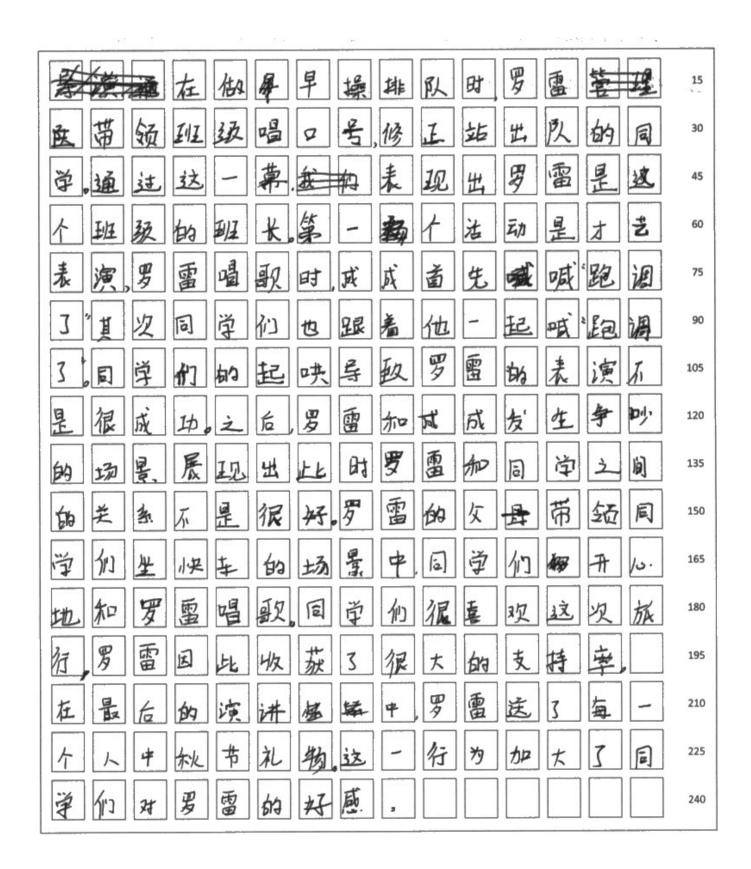
Accuracy of language: 7 marks

Critical and analytical response: 14 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 15 marks



To get to the top band, candidates need to analyse the scenes in an organised manner. Candidates should also avoid the use of pinyin and practise the writing of Chinese characters.







The essay made a good exploration of four scenes relevant to the question: 1) morning exercise on the playground; 2) the jeers of the class in the singing competition; 3) metro ride; and 4) giving out gifts.

There was consistent variation in use of grammatical structure, producing a piece of consistently articulate writing.

This response scored 44 marks.

Accuracy of language: 9 marks

Critical and analytical response: 17 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 18 marks



Candidates are advised to watch the film thoroughly and pay great attention to the full details of the scenes, such as actions of the characters, conversations among the characters, and their facial expressions.

Question 6







This essay was relatively short.

On the whole, it was to the point, but not detailed enough: eg the transformation from a planned economy to a capitalist economy; hutong vs. high-rise buildings; class discrimination against rural workers; and rich-poor gap.

This response scored 35 marks.

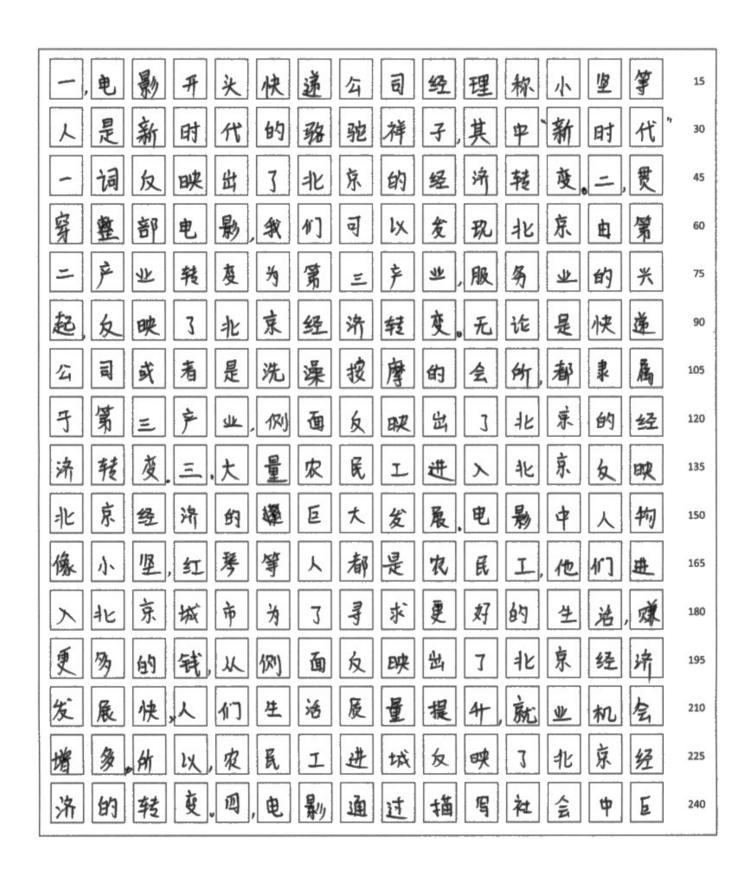
Accuracy of language: 8 marks

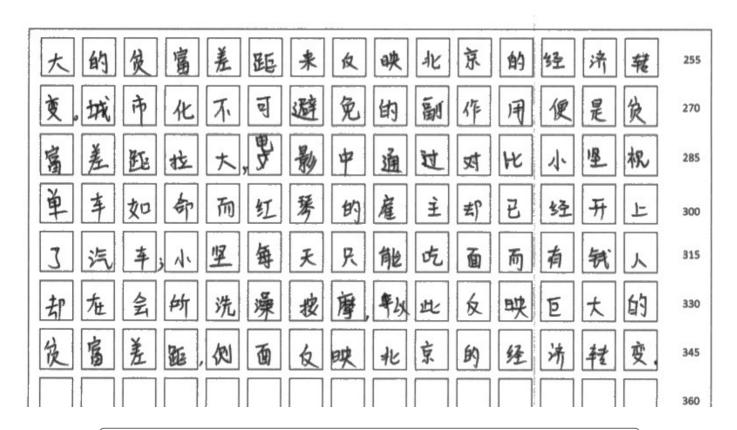
Critical and analytical response: 13 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 14 marks



To achieve higher marks, it is important to fully develop the viewpoints with plenty of convincing interpretations. A detailed response is a must to gain a higher grade.







Critical analysis of the economic transformation of Beijing in the film was demonstrated very well and justified with appropriately selected evidence from the film: eg secondary industry to tertiary industry; the influx of rural workers; and rich-poor gap.

However, the accuracy of the analysis was slightly affected by the mixing up of the two main characters (ie Xiaogui vs. Xiaojian).

This response scored 43 marks.

Accuracy of language: 10 marks

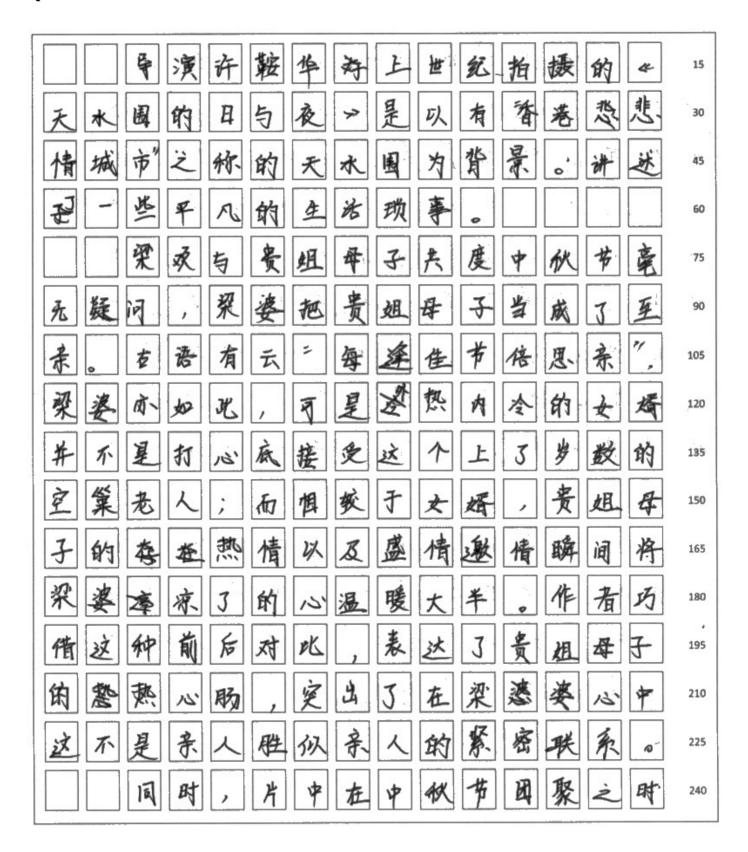
Critical and analytical response: 16 marks

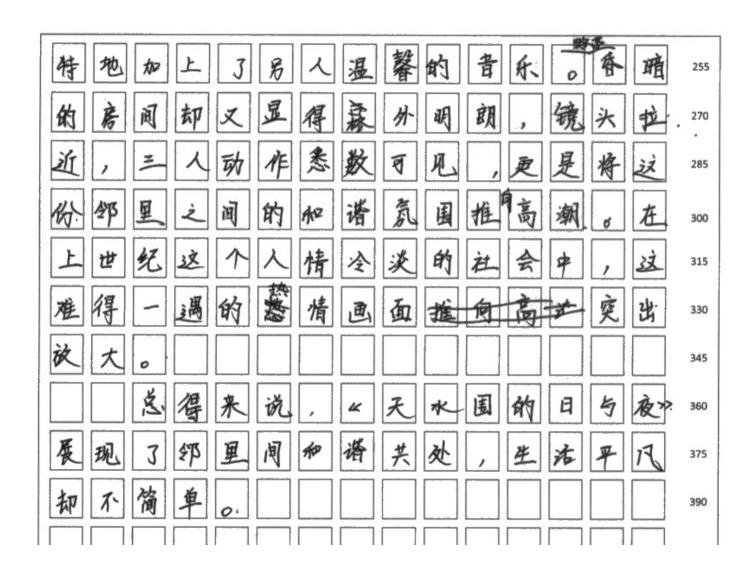
Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 17 marks



To ensure the highest result, it is important for candidates to double check the names of the protagonists. To make improvement, candidates should explore fully some points. For example, the relevance of "new era" in the essay should be addressed more thoroughly.

Question 7







In question 7, candidates were expected to examine the signification of Leung Foon, Kwai and her son celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival together.

The essay's examination of Leung Foon's emotional changes towards Kwai and her son was appropriate. The comparison between her own son-in-law and Kwai was very good. The paragraph on the scene of the Mid-Autumn Festival was detailed and beautifully written.

However, there was hardly any detailed discussion on the meaning of the festival from the perspectives of Ka On and his mother.

This response scored 38 marks.

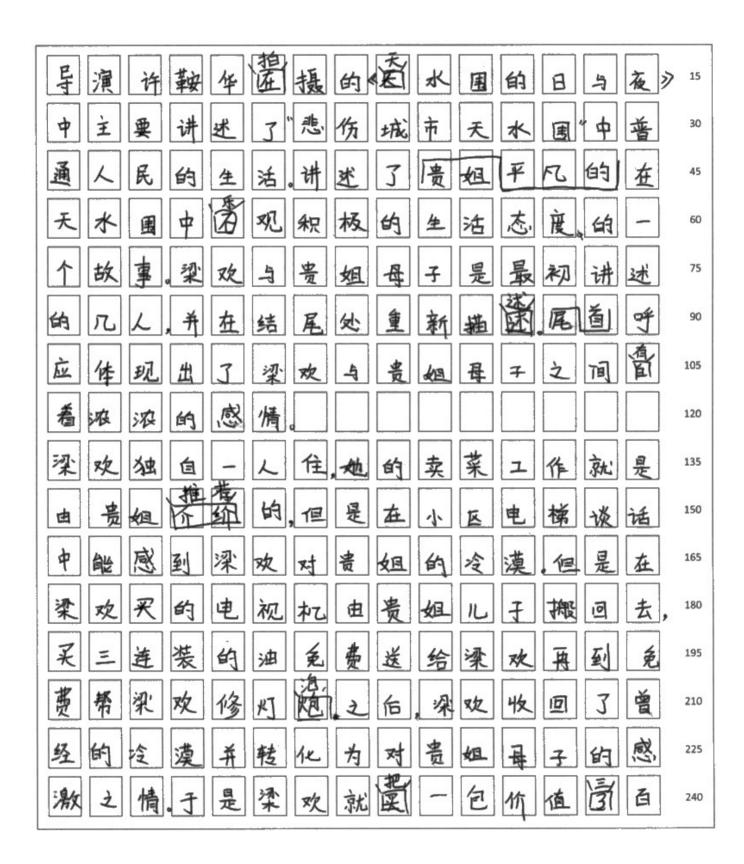
Accuracy of language: 9 marks

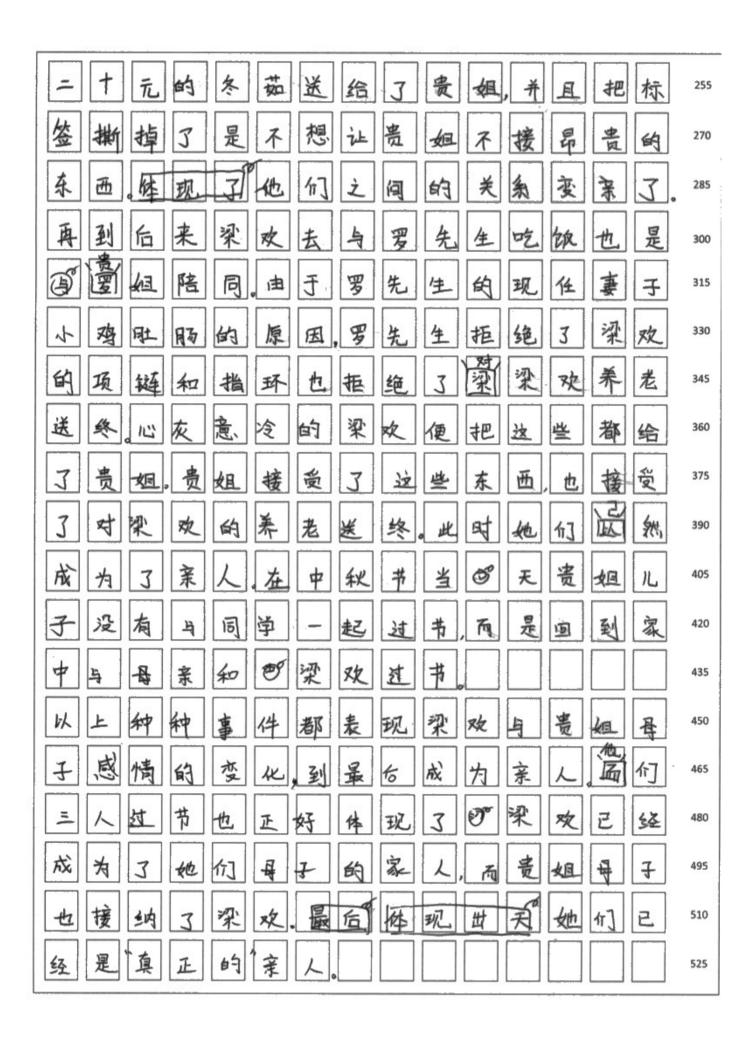
Critical and analytical response: 14 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 15 marks



Candidates need to delve deeper into the film so that they can identify more relevant scenes, dialogues and actions to directly address the question. For example, though Ka On is a supporting character in the film, his role is important in the film.







This essay retold the story of the film instead of exploring the significance of Leung Foon, Kwai and her son celebrating the festival together.

Relevant response was evident only in the last ten lines of the essay.

This response scored 29 marks.

Accuracy of language: 8 marks

Critical and analytical response: 10 marks

Range of grammatical structures and vocabulary: 11 marks



Candidates need to avoid making an account of the plot of the film in the essay. Instead, they need to learn how to adopt a critical analytical approach with pertinent viewpoints.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are advised to:

- practise Chinese key words for each theme;
- proofread the translation carefully so that there are no careless mistakes or missing details;
- study the novels and watch the films thoroughly;
- identify the key words in each question when writing the response. This can help them to avoid loss of focus:
- write the essays critically, analytically and logically;
- justify points of views with appropriately selected evidence from the novels or the films;
- practise literary and cinematic terminology;
- avoid pinyin words and write in Chinese characters.

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