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Examiners' Report June 2010

GCE Chinese 6CN02

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Introduction

This paper carries 70 marks and consists of 3 sections, the time allocation is 2 hours and 30 minutes. There was little evidence that candidates did not have sufficient time to complete all questions.

Section 1

Section 1 is listening. Candidates answer 4 questions within the first 45 minutes. Candidates may replay the recording of each passage as many times as they like within the 45 minutes. Candidates therefore should make use of this opportunity to make more certain that the answers they have written down are correct.

In question 3, a considerable number of candidates did not circle the correct answer in the bracket as instructed. The correct answer was accepted in whichever form it was offered but candidates are advised to comply with the rubric.

Question 4 carries the largest number of marks amongst the listening questions and candidates are required to give answers in Chinese characters. The vast majority of candidates appeared to understand the extract well, but some struggled to give the correct registers and lost marks.

Section 2

Section 2 is reading. Candidates are required to read three passages and respond to the questions in English. Overall candidates performed less well on this section compared to the other two sections on the paper.

Candidates are reminded to read the rubric and to adhere to the requirements that all answers should be in English and all answers should be based exclusively on the information in the passage. No credit can be given for answers written in Chinese and for those that have no basis in the stimulus.

For question 5, candidates tended to write lengthy answers. Indiscriminate lifting will not result in high marks. It is sufficient to pick the key sentence or phrase that is focused on the question. To have the keywords understood in context and appropriately translated is more important. This also applies to questions 6 and 7.

Section 3

Section 3 is continuous writing. Many candidates received high marks on this section. Some candidates did slightly less well because they did not respond to all of the bullet points or they misinterpreted the rubric for the 2nd and 3rd bullets as referring to western festivals. Some candidates exceeded the stipulated length of 180-200 characters. The extra effort they put in was unnecessary, and in no case resulted in a higher mark because only the work written within the word-limit of 200 characters will be credited.

Question 5

- (a) According to Yingdong (英东), how can students benefit from a teacher who is knowledgeable? (1)

By learning knowledge outside the subject content.

- (b) What is the important thing that Li Ming (李明) expects to do in class with a teacher who is knowledgeable? (1)

Get the chance to talk about topics such as social problems and global issues.

- (c) What kind of teacher does Meisi (美思) like best? (1)

Teachers that can own up to the things they've done wrong.

- (d) There is one thing David (大伟) thinks teachers must do. (1)

- (i) What is it? (1)

Teachers can dismiss the class on time.

- (ii) If the teacher cannot do that, what does it say about the teacher? (1)

The teacher has not planned the lesson very well.

(Total for Question 5 = 5 marks)



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Examiner Comments

This candidate scored full marks.



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Examiner Tip

For Question 5(a) candidates should focus on the keyword 'extra-curriculum knowledge' or 'knowledge outside the textbooks'.

For Question 5(b) candidates should not translate the word 'went' literally into 'question'. In this context the appropriate word is 'issue'.

For Question 5(c) candidates should follow the original text 'admit'. Both 'confess' and 'correct' are not appropriate.

Question 7

(a) When did Yuming get the scholarship to study in Singapore?

(1)

He got the scholarship when he finished year nine.

(b) Name **two** benefits he gets from his scholarship.

(2)

The school fees and boarding fees are free.

He gets pocket money every year.

(c) Yuming found one thing difficult when he first went to Singapore.

(i) What was that?

(1)

All the lessons are taught in English.

(ii) How long did it take him to get used to it?

(1)

It took him half a year to get used to it.

(d) What does he like about studying in Singapore?

(1)

There are less stress and pressure to study in Singapore.

(e) What kind of society is Singapore? Name **one** characteristic.

(1)

Singapore has many cultures in the society.

(f) What has he learnt since living in Singapore?

(2)

He has learnt to live friendly with other people and he has

also learnt some local language.

(g) He has made many international friends. What is the benefit of this?

(1)

This could increase his English level.

(Total for Question 7 = 10 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 20 MARKS



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Examiner Comments

This candidate scored 8 out of 10 marks. This candidate did not score on parts e and g.



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Examiner Tip

For question 7(e) many candidates did not understand 'multi cultural' or 'multi racial' in both English and Chinese.

For Question 7(g) candidates tended to leave out the word 'help', rendering a different meaning.

Question 8

親愛的小明！

你好，小明！近況如何呢？你一定感到孤單了，因為沒了我在你身邊。我在英國這邊，大致都安頓下來了，不用擔心。春節剛過去了，你一定吃了不少美味的家鄉小菜。想到這裏，我都口水直流，真是非常懷念。讓我跟你分享一下，我在這邊如何慶祝中國新年吧！

我學校相對其他學校的中國留學生多，所以春節的氣氛比較多一點。我們年初一到了附近城市慶祝，當中也有不少對中國節日感興趣的本地生。一家中國餐館特意安排了舞獅表演，吸引不少連人注意，包括我們一行人，我們向本地人送了舞獅的由來，他們大感興趣。在晚上，我們到那家餐館吃飯，大家再一次嘗到家鄉美食，熱熱鬧鬧聚在一起，春節也是為了這樣！

字數：

慶祝



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Examiner Comments

This candidate scored a high mark for Quality of Language (12 marks) but only 7 marks for Content and response. The candidate wrote 102 characters for the first paragraph and as a result only 2 of the bullet points were addressed with the remaining 98 characters rendering the task incomplete and a significant part of the essay irrelevant.



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Examiner Tip

Candidates should limit the opening paragraph / lines to no more than 20 words. Start with 'How are you? You asked me about how we celebrate Chinese New Year. The school I am in...etc...'

Question 8

琪琪：

你好，我~~到中国~~^{最近}参加了一个中文班。刚好是过年的时间，所以我在~~这~~^{这里}度过了一个愉快的新年。

我所在的城市是~~伦敦~~^{伦敦}，学校带我们去~~多~~^{附近}的中国~~餐厅~~吃饭，是中餐自助餐，价钱实惠，东西也非常好吃，这让我爱上了中国食物。吃完自助餐后，学校还买来一些中国过年时会吃的食物，如年糕，饺子等。并且教我们如何烹调，让我们可以边做边吃，享受自己做的中国美食。最后，学校还用中国的红包包利是给我们，虽然钱不~~如~~^{很多}，却让我们感受到浓浓的春节的气氛。

伦敦的唐人街也挂满了各种灯笼和彩~~旗~~^旗，非常漂亮，让街道焕然一新，我非常喜欢。还有舞龙舞狮，我不是很喜欢，因为它的声音十分吵闹。

字数：240

期待你的回信。

桂远婷
2010.5.20



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Examiner Comments

The opening paragraph is acceptable. All the details and description are relevant to the title. However, the candidate focuses too much on how the school celebrated the festival and is not able to address all the bullet points. The content of this essay scores 8 marks and the quality of language 13 marks.



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Examiner Tip

Candidates need to be more aware of the rubric and give equal attention and balanced space to all the bullet points.

小红你好
 春节刚过去，中国那里
 很热闹吧？我们这也有很多庆祝
 活动。中文班里面有很多同学聚到
 一起自己编排排了一场小型的歌舞
 表演，同学们都拿一些小吃到学校
 大家一起分享，老师还带了自己包
 的饺子，非常好吃。我所住的城市
 举行了舞龙舞狮表演，
 到处都挂满了中国灯笼，还有很多人
 穿着旗袍弹奏中国传统音乐。我最
 喜欢的是表演是十几岁小孩表演
 的武术，他们只表演了几个简单
 的动作，但是看上去很认真。我不
 是很喜欢活动开始前的讲话，有点
 浪费时间。
 祝身体健康

小彤

日期

字数：198

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Examiner Comments

This answer scored 15 for content and 14 for language. The opening is concise and immediately links to the first bullet point. All the bullet points are addressed and balanced. The activities described are relevant and believable. Examiners particularly liked the opening comment on the opening speech, which provides a genuine sense of personal feeling and experience.

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Examiner Tip

To gain full mark for language, candidates must pay attention to paragraphing and punctuation. It is appropriate to start a new paragraph for the celebration in the city.

Grade boundaries

Grade	Max. Mark	A	B	C	D	E	N	U
Raw mark boundary	70	52	44	37	30	23	16	0
Uniform mark scale boundary	70	56	49	42	35	28	21	0

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