



**General Certificate of Secondary Education  
June 2011**

**Chinese (Mandarin)**

**46702F/H**

**(Specification 4670)**

**Unit 2: Reading**

***Report on the Examination***

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## **General Comments**

The overall performance on these papers was pleasing, although students must ensure that they read the Chinese text thoroughly and carefully.

### **Foundation Tier**

#### **Question 1**

This tested the weather and proved to be a comfortable opening question.

#### **Question 2**

This was another accessible question, although many students failed to score.

#### **Question 3**

This question was about holidays and produced pleasing results, demonstrating that students are confident in dealing with familiar activities.

#### **Question 4**

Surprisingly, a very low percentage of students got the basic colour of pets correct. Surprisingly few chose the correct answer *cat*.

#### **Question 5**

Students performed well on this question about birthday presents. Clothes vocabulary appeared not to be well known.

#### **Question 6**

Students should have read the text about personal information more carefully.

#### **Question 7**

This question on future plans was reasonably well done.

#### **Question 8**

Students performance on this question was disappointing.

#### **Question 9**

This was an overlap question, targeting grade C, and proved challenging at Foundation Tier, though the general performance was good and the majority of the students scored more than half marks. The low scores for both (c) and (d) were caused by not having read the whole text, while the score for the most demanding question (f) was pleasing.

#### **Question 10**

This was another overlap question, targeting grade D and testing personal details. The results for first two questions were very good, whereas the final question was not well answered.

## **Higher Tier**

### **Question 1**

This question about future plans was well answered compared with Foundation Tier students.

### **Question 2**

This diary question produced good scores compared with the Foundation Tier. Question (c) was not well answered and was a case where students needed to read the text very carefully.

### **Question 3**

This question on personal details was very well answered.

### **Question 4**

Students obviously found it more demanding when they needed to choose 'X+D' instead of a single letter choice. In this question on holidays, they needed to read the whole text carefully before making a decision.

### **Question 5**

Students performed well on this question about making plans.

### **Question 6**

Surprisingly, at this level, some students did not perform well on Question (c).

### **Question 7**

This question, aimed at A\*, proved challenging to many students.

More training on how to use the Chinese conjunction words should be encouraged, as they are an essential part of Higher Tier testing.

### **Question 8**

Students performed very well on this question about the environment.

### **Question 9**

In this question about favourite food, the scores were noticeably lower than those for Question 8 and many students seemed to be unfamiliar with the words for location and Chinese festivals. Although '中秋节', '警察局' and '地铁' are all commonly used terms at GCSE level, a surprising number of students appeared not to be familiar with this vocabulary.

It is hoped that the information contained in this report will help teachers in their preparation for this component in the future.

### **Mark Ranges and Award of Grades**

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.

Convert raw or scaled marks into marks on the Uniform Mark Scale (UMS) by using the link below:

**UMS conversion calculator:** [www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion](http://www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion).