



**General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2012**

Chinese (Mandarin)

46701F/H

(Specification 4670)

Unit 1 Listening

Report on the Examination

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General Comments

Most students attempted all the questions on the paper. Many students managed to gain some marks and there were quite a few who achieved high scores. It cannot be stressed too strongly that students should be encouraged to write their answers as clearly and as legibly as possible, otherwise they risk the unnecessary loss of marks if an answer cannot be understood. It is a good idea, for example, to tell students to use capital letters in the multiple choice style tasks. If they decide to amend an answer, the new response needs to be indicated clearly, preferably with the original answer deleted.

Foundation Tier

Questions 1 - 3

Question 1 and Question 2 in this section were well answered by all students. Students were very familiar with food and drink vocabulary.

Questions 4 - 7

Question 4 and Question 7 in this section were very well answered and 公园 appeared to be an accessible word. Some students did not understand 电脑游戏 for Question 5 and some did not distinguish between 足球 and 篮球, and therefore chose B rather than D for Question 6.

Questions 8 - 10

These questions on school were well done by most students, successfully scoring at least one or two marks. All students answered Question 10 correctly as 老师 is a familiar expression to students addressing their teachers in Chinese.

Questions 11 - 14

This section caused some difficulties, when 工程师 was not understood by most of the students. A variety of different answers were given for Question 12, probably by guessing, including a few -师 related occupations.

Questions 15 - 17

Many students struggled to understand different location expressions and Question 15 (左边) was not correctly answered, although most managed to answer Question 17 (上面).

Questions 18 - 21

This section was well done by most students. However, many did not identify the mother's job as 厨师 in Question 19.

Questions 22 - 25

Most questions in this section were very well answered by most of the students. However 手机 was a challenging word for a number of students in Question 24.

Questions 26 - 28

A full range of marks was observed in this multiple choice section. Question 28 relating to personal appearance was more accessible but many students struggled with time expressions in Question 26. The distractor 不吃肉 in Question 27 about favourite food also caused difficulties for some less able students, as they chose the wrong answer B, rather than C.

Questions 29-32

Most students understood that the four seasons were the subject under discussion and most scored the mark for Question 29 and 32, but many did not spot both 真没意思 and 天天有雨 in order to secure the mark in Question 30. Instead, half of the students wrongly assumed there would be a positive opinion about the summer.

Questions 33-35

These questions proved straightforward for most students but many gave the wrong answers in Question 33, as they did not identify 在网上聊天 and in Question 35 by not understanding 上网购物 or 不喜欢去商店.

Higher Tier

General Comments

There were a large number of pleasing, high scoring scripts, though some students clearly struggled, especially with the later questions. Fewer scripts had blank spaces this year for the type of questions requiring written answers in English. Some students struggled with questions requiring written answers in English and found it difficult to write comprehensible language to answer the questions. Another worrying trend was the poor handwriting of a significant minority of students. It was sometimes very difficult to decipher what had been written. In the multiple choice style questions it is essential that students write letters clearly. In the final section of questions, aimed at the higher grades, precision in answering is important and students need to give as much information as possible. Answers which are too brief run the risk of failing to score through lack of clarity or through ambiguity.

Questions 1 - 2

These were generally well answered by most students, especially 运动 to be identified in Question 2. A few students mistook 大饭店 for a bank.

Questions 3 - 6

This section of questions was also well answered by most students, who were able to identify the different items quite easily.

Questions 7 - 9

This proved to be another straightforward set of questions for most of the students and was well answered. The date expressions in Question 7 caused occasional problems.

Questions 10 - 13

These questions requiring positive, negative or positive + negative opinions were very well done, as students were very familiar with the key words such as 好, 好看, 爱, 没意思 and 不喜欢, though did not spot both 真没意思 and 天天有雨 in order to secure the mark in Question 11. A small number of students incorrectly assumed there would be a positive opinion about the summer.

Questions 14 - 16

These questions on technology were well done by most students. Overall, compared with the Foundation Tier, the questions were answered more successfully.

Questions 17 - 20

These questions discriminated well. Able students scored well but some less able students appeared to be relying on guesswork. Some key vocabulary caused difficulties, such as 学校, 除了...以外, 慢, 参加 and 比赛.

Questions 20 - 21

This section of questions requiring positive written answers and negative aspects was answered well by most. A few students did not correlate with 帮助别人 whilst 不难, 容易, 有意思 and 没意思 seemed very familiar words. Some confused 晚上 with 网上 hence giving the answer 'she does not like to work online'.

Questions 23 - 24

These questions were also well answered by the majority of students and the question type was well accessed. Whilst 妈妈 was easily related to 'parental pressure' and 体育课 with the further clue of 运动 provided the obvious answer of 'lack of PE lessons', some students were unsure about the vocabulary for school, such as 考试 and 作业.

Questions 25 - 26

These questions all met with a very good degree of success and blank spaces were rarely seen. The vast majority of students scored one mark in each question.

Questions 27 - 29

Questions 27 and 28 in this section were better answered by most students with Question 29 proving to be the most challenging as 做生意 appeared to be a difficult concept to some students. In Question 29, it was clear some students had misunderstood 去过中国 as 'plan to go to China' and 做汽车生意 as 'become a driver'. There was some evidence of guesswork in the answers of this section of questions as a variety of irrelevant answers were given, reflecting general knowledge for the topic of university and future plans but details were insufficient. However, a few students chose to leave some of these questions blank.

Questions 30 - 32

Most students made an effort and picked up marks here. It was possible that some might have produced imaginative responses or made up their own answers, perhaps from their general knowledge about life in London, as many answers were worded unexpectedly, or appeared to be correlatives of what was supposed to be heard, such as 'many shops' in Question 30, 'houses are too expensive' for Question 31 or 'sightseeing' for Question 32. Question 30 appeared to be the most accessible one and Question 32 the most challenging. In Question 32, over half the students found 参观中国书法展览 a challenging concept, giving wrong answers including 'visit Chinatown' or 'do Chinese calligraphy'.

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