

GCSE

CHINESE

Unit 1 Listening
Report on the Examination

46701
June 2013

Version: 1.0

Further copies of this Report are available from aqa.org.uk

Copyright © 2013 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered schools/colleges for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to schools/colleges to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Foundation Tier

General Comments

Students generally performed well on this paper. 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. It is a good idea, for example, to tell them 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 and the original answer crossed out.

Questions 1-3

It appears that 医生 (doctor) in Question 2 was a more accessible word than 工人 in Question 1, as more students scored a mark for Question 2. All students answered Question 3 correctly as 老师 is a familiar expression used by students addressing their teachers in Mandarin.

Questions 4-6

All students answered Question 4 and Question 6 correctly as 伦敦 and 北京 are cognates. Some students failed to understand 香港 in Mandarin, as 'Hong Kong' is the English cognate with Cantonese. Guesswork included 'Taiwan', 'Paris', 'Spain' and 'hospital'.

Questions 7

These questions on weather were answered correctly by most students. All students successfully scored at least one mark, as they were very familiar with the adjective 冷.

Questions 8-11

Question 8 and Question 11 in this section were very well answered and 中文书 appeared to be a well-known word. Some students struggled to understand the location expression 前面 in Question 9 and some failed to identify the word 电脑 from a list of three items.

Questions 12

These questions were well done by most, as students were very familiar with food and drink vocabulary. All students successfully scored at least two marks.

Questions 13-15

Most questions in this section about hobbies were very well answered by most students. However, some failed to identify 天天中午 in Question 14.

Questions 16-19

Most students understood that school subjects were under discussion and scored the mark for Question 18 and 19, but some failed to spot 没意思 in Question 16 and 很容易 in Question 17 in order to secure the marks.

Questions 20-23

Many students struggled to understand 书法 in Question 20, (快乐) in Question 21 and (工作) in Question 22, although most managed to answer Question 23 (好玩儿).

Questions 24-26

A full range of marks was observed in this multiple choice section. The words relating to means of transport were more accessible than the locations but 中国 was a very familiar word to many students in Question 26. 市中心 in Question 25 seemed challenging for some less able students, as they made many guesses, eg park, museum, airport, Italy, Chinatown, Chinese festivals, etc.

Higher Tier

General Comments

There were a large number of pleasing, high scoring scripts, though some students clearly struggled, especially with the later questions. A lower number of scripts than last year had blank spaces for the questions requiring written answers in English. It is a concern that some students struggled with those 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 relevant 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 questions were correctly answered by most students.

Questions 3-6

These questions requiring positive, negative or positive+negative opinions were very well done, as most students were very familiar with key words such as 没意思, 喜欢, 不太喜欢, 很容易, 好听 and 不友好 and were able to identify the different opinions quite easily.

Questions 7-10

These were another straightforward set of questions to most students and were well answered. The father's hobby of 书法 in Question 7 seemed unfamiliar to some students.

Questions 11-13

These questions on holidays were well done by most students. Overall, the questions were much better responded to, compared with the Foundation Tier students.

Questions 14-17

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 18-19

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 瓶子和报纸.

Questions 20-23

These questions were also well answered by the majority of students and the question type of requiring advantage, disadvantage or both advantage and disadvantage viewpoints was successful. Whilst 真好玩儿 and 太有意思了 were easily related to advantage and 不高兴 and 对...不好 was clearly a disadvantage, some students were unsure about the connective words 一边...一边... and 太棒了 appeared to be challenging to them.

Questions 24-25

Question 24 in this section was better answered by most students with Question 25 seeming to be the more challenging. 旅游 seemed to be an unfamiliar word to some students. In Question 24, it was clear some students had misunderstood 参加剧院演出 as 'going to the hospital', 看电影 as 'watching TV' and 旅游 as 'swimming'. There is some evidence of guesswork in the answers to this section of questions, as a variety of irrelevant answers were given, reflecting general knowledge

for the topic of future jobs but details were insufficient. A few students chose to leave some of these questions blank.

Questions 26-30

Most students made an effort and picked up marks here. Questions 27 proved the most demanding as some students had mistaken 公寓楼房 for 'house next to the park' and some failed to provide specific answers by only stating 'convenient' for 购物也很方便. It was possible that some students made up their own answers, perhaps from their general knowledge about the lifestyle in China. Many answers were worded unexpectedly or appeared to be correlatives of what they heard, such as 'eats healthily', 'eats a lot of rice' or 'often does exercises' in Question 28, 'do martial art' or 'do not drink fizzy drinks' for Question 29 or 'have a balanced diet' or 'eat more fruits and vegetables' for Question 30. For Question 30, whilst 早饭要吃好 and 晚饭要吃少 appeared to be more accessible, some students failed to distinguish between 吃饱 and 吃(面)包.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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

Converting Marks into UMS marks

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