

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2015

Pearson Edexcel GCSE in Chinese (5CN03/3H)

Paper 3H: Reading and Understanding

in Chinese

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GCSE Chinese Unit 3H Reading and Understanding in Chinese Examiners' Report

This paper is to test candidates' reading comprehension through a variety of texts that included answering questions on a passage dealing with travel plans, weather, a visit, a passage describing travel in London, careers, passages on a day at work and an evening out and questions on a passage with response in English.

The paper is targeted at candidates with a higher level of understanding of the Chinese language and takes the form of selecting the right answers to multiple choice questions and, for the last question, answering comprehension on a passage in English.

Overall, candidates performed well and exhibited a good level of reading comprehension.

Question 1 required candidates to answer questions on a short passage about an individual's travel plans. Candidates generally responded well to this question with the exception of identifying where the advertisement was seen. Response to part (ii) helped to differentiate stronger candidates.

In Question 2 candidates were asked identify the weather at different locations. The main challenge to candidates appeared to be part (i) that required correct identification of where the weather was 'foggy' and to a lesser extent part (iii) relating to 'cloudy'. These proved a differentiator for stronger candidates.

Question 3 again required candidates to answer questions on a passage. The ability to identify how the journey began, 'on foot', proved challenging; identifying that she saw a 'bridge' during the journey also helped to differentiate stronger candidates.

Question 4 was based on an example of an individual writing about how people travel around in London. This question was generally well handled by candidates although part (v), (vi) and (vii) proved more challenging and served to identify stronger candidates.

Question 5 was well handled by most candidates.

Question 6 returned to asking candidates to respond to questions on a passage about an individual's day at work. While generally managed well by candidates, part (iv) proved to be challenging, identifying when work commenced – 'at noon', and served to differentiate stronger candidates.

Question 7, like question 5, was well handled by most candidates.

In Question 8 candidates were asked to provide responses in English to a series of questions on a short passage. This question proved a strong differentiator between candidates of different levels of ability, in particular in relation to parts (c), (d) and (f). In relation to part (c) a wide range of

