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Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2019

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Chinese (1CN0) Paper 4F: Writing

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Introduction

This year is the first examination since the new specification was introduced in 2017. Students need to write in Chinese without any aid, i.e. plan form or dictionaries. The new examination format proved to be challenging across the four sections.

Overview

Question 1, "describe the photo and give an opinion about the teacher," one can see that students were less familiar with this format. Some students were able to give the information on how many students and teacher were having lessons and what they think about their teacher. Not many students were able to use the introductory sentence "这是....." "这张照片是.....", but it was pleasing to see that some students were able to use "我觉得" and "因为" to give opinions.

Question 2, Students gave mixed performance for this question. Students could write dates but struggled with the bullet point "how long you will stay", some were not able to use the verb "住". Students performed well with the last two bullet points.

Question 3 is the crossover question with Higher paper, more students chose 3 (a), but bullet point 3 proved to be challenging. Some students struggled to give the reason on why or why not should friends share the same hobby.

Question 4 Translation is a new skill tested at GCSE level according to the new specification. As it is single sentence translation, students have to write the correct characters to gain the marks; Pinyin is discouraged. Students performed well with sentence 3 "我的学校很大". Students struggled to write "中学生", "上海" (some wrote "每") and "星期".