Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2022

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Chinese (1CN0)
Paper 3F: Reading and understanding in Chinese
Foundation Tier

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Introduction

In Paper 3F: Reading and understanding in Chinese (Foundation Tier), candidates are assessed on their understanding of written Chinese across a range of different types of texts.

Candidates need to:
- identify the overall message, key points, details and opinions in texts
- deduce meaning from a variety of written texts
- recognise the relationship between past, present and future events
- understand texts, organise and present relevant details, and where appropriate, draw inferences in context and recognise implicit meaning
- recognise and respond to key information, important themes and ideas in more extended written text, including authentic sources, adapted and abridged as appropriate, by being able to extract information and answer questions.

This paper has a total of 50 marks and consists of 10 questions. This paper comprises two sections. Candidates must answer all questions from each of the two sections. Section A has nine questions set in English. Question types comprise both multiple-response and short-answer open response questions. The instructions to candidates are in English. Section B contains one translation passage from Chinese into English. The instructions to candidates are in English.

The assessment is available in traditional and simplified characters. All questions and texts are printed twice, once with texts using traditional/full characters and once with texts in simplified characters. Candidates select the most appropriate version, but not both.

Four of the questions are common to both Foundation and Higher tiers.

The use of dictionaries is not permitted.

The total assessment time is 50 minutes in length.

Overall performance
The candidates responded quite well to most of the questions in Section A and Section B. Many candidates showed good abilities in identifying the overall message, key points, details and opinions in texts, and was able to deduce meaning and recognise and respond to key information and important ideas in more extended written texts.

The exemplifications provided here are used to either show good practice or offer advice to candidates.

Question 3

This question requires candidates to answer three open-ended questons. This candidate addressed the questions directly and succinctly, using words and short phrases. All candidates are encouraged to adopt this manner when answering questions, that is, to use words and short phrases.

(i) What time did school start every day? (1)

_8 am_

(ii) What sport did she do on Wednesdays? (1)

Swimming

(iii) What subject did they study for one hour a week? (1)

Languages

Question 5

This question requires candidates to give short answers to three open-ended questions. All candidates are advised to read the questions carefully before answering the questions. For example, the response to (a) could be an indicator that this candidate did not finish reading the character after 春 hence did not manage to interpret the exact meaning correctly. Item (c) asked for an opinion, but the candidate listed an activity. It is adviseable that all candidates pay more attention to the question words when looking for and writing down their answers.

(a) When is a popular time for Chinese people to travel? (1)

Spring

(b) What do they spend a lot of money on when travelling? (1)

Souveniers

(c) What do they think of spending time at the seaside? (1)
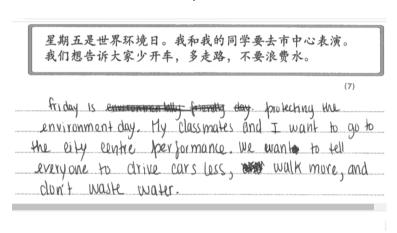
Sun bathing

Question 8

This question requires candidates to give short answers to four open-ended questions. Candidates are advised to read the text carefully before answering the questions. For example, the text reads '十三岁的时候' rather than '十三年以前'; for item (b), the text reads '他一元钱也不要', and the candidate's answer '1 yuan' could be an indicator that s/he did not finish reading the sentence before writing down the response.

(a) When did Ma Yun start working as a tour guide?

(1)

13 years ago

(b) How much money did he charge for his service?

(1)

ror One yuan

Question 10

This question requires candidates to tranlate several sentences into English. Translation requires a high level of accuracy. Candidates are advised to stick to the meaning of the original text and do not add or omit any content. For example, the translation below shows that this candiate added 保护 in the first sentence. In the second sentence, this candidate's choice of words 'performance' in '…to go to the city centre performance' affected the flow of this piece of tranlation.

星期五是世界环境日。我和我的同学要去市中心表演。
我们想告诉大家少开车，多走路，不要浪费水。

(7)

friday is ~~environmentally friendly day~~ protecting the environment day. My classmates and I want to go to the city centre performance. We want to tell everyone to drive cars less, ~~~~ walk more, and don't waste water.

Summary

Based on this year's overall performance, candidates are offered the following advice:
- ➢ master the words given in the vocabulary list
- ➢ attempt all questions
- ➢ read the texts carefully
- ➢ pay close attention to the questions words
- ➢ pay close attention to the tenses, choices of words, word order and so on when translating.