Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

Cambridge IGCSE

MANDARIN CHINESE	**0547/04**
Paper 4 Writing	**For Examination from 2015**
SPECIMEN MARK SCHEME	
	1 hour 15 minutes

MAXIMUM MARK: 45

This document consists of **9** printed pages and **1** blank page.

SECTION 1

Question 1

Candidates are required to list 5 items in Chinese. Read all the items the candidate has listed and award marks as follows:

- **Award 1 mark for each correct item up to a maximum of 5**

NB Accept anything the candidate might see in a park.

Generic mark scheme for Question 1

- <u>Answers should be marked for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies, provided the message is clear.</u>

Session-specific instructions for Question 1: things you might see in a park

- <u>The following are examples. Accept anything the candidate might see in a park.</u>

ACCEPT
水
花
火车
商店
面条
球
孩子
网球
茶
报
鸟

Total for Question 1: 5 marks

Question 2

Candidates are required to answer the question. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows:

- **Communication: award a mark out of 10, according to the instructions in 2.1**
- **Language: award a mark out of 5, according to the instructions in 2.2.**

2.1: award a mark out of 10 for Communication

Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 2)

(i)	Place the appropriate 'numbered' tick as close as possible to each relevant communication point.
(ii)	Award ticks flexibly across the tasks for each piece of relevant information conveyed, up to a maximum of 10. HOWEVER, each of the 5 tasks must be covered to get the 10 communication marks:
	▪ <u>If 1 of the tasks</u> is missing, the maximum communication mark is 9.
	▪ <u>If 2 of the tasks</u> are missing, the maximum communication mark is 8 (and so on).
(iii)	Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 10 for Communication.
(iv)	For COMMUNICATION, be tolerant of time frames and minor character errors, provided the characters written are clear enough to be understood.
(v)	<u>LISTS</u> = a maximum of 3 marks for communication: lists of 1–3 items = 1 mark; lists of 4 items = 2 marks; lists of 5–6 items = 3 marks
(vi)	Only reward each piece of information once, e.g. «she is nice» cannot score both as description and reason for liking («she is nice» and «her music is great» can both be rewarded).
(vii)	Up to 4 further marks available for additional details for **(a)**, **(b)**, **(c)**, **(d)** or **(e)**
(viii)	1 mark available for appropriate beginning or ending, e.g. 小李，你好！ / 小李
(ix)	Do not penalise factual errors.

Total marks for Communication: 10

Session-specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 2): 请写一写你最好的朋友：

Tick	Accept
1	你最好的朋友是谁；(Reward any name / person)
2	你朋友家里都有谁；(Reward mum / dad / sister / brother / grandmother / grandfather / cousin / aunt / uncle etc.)
3	你朋友喜欢什么体育活动；(Reward any sport)
4	你明天要跟他/她一起做些什么；(Reward any activity)
5	你为什么很喜欢他/她。(Reward any reason)

2.2: award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Language

Generic mark scheme for Language (Question 2):

- Award a mark out of 5 for Language, according to the Grade descriptors in the table below (see *Note on using mark schemes with Grade descriptors* (last page of mark scheme)):

Grade descriptors for Language (Question 2)

5	Highly accurate in the use of simpler structures, with occasional minor slips.
4	Accurate in the use of simpler structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips.
3	Generally accurate, but with increased incidence of more serious errors.
2	Substantially inaccurate, despite several examples of accurate usage.
1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.
0	No examples of accurate usage.

Total marks for Language: 5

Total for Question 2: 15 marks

SECTION 2

Question 3

Candidates answer 1 question from a choice of 3. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows:

- **Communication: award a mark out of 5, according to the instructions in 3.1**
- **Language:**
    - **award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters, according to the instructions in 3.2**
    - **award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures, according to the instructions in 3.3**
    - **award an Impression mark out of 5, according to the instructions in 3.4.**

3.1 – award a mark out of 5 for Communication

Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 3):

(i)   There are 5 relevant communication points per question, each worth a maximum of 1 mark.

(ii) For each relevant communication point, use the appropriate numbered tick and place 1 of these ticks as close as possible to each relevant communication point.

(iii) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 5 for Communication.

Total marks for Communication: 5

Session-specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 3):

- *Question 3(a): letter to a friend about your favourite hobby*

Tick	Accept	Mark
1	**What candidate's favourite sport is** Allow any type of sport or sports related activity	**1**
2	**When candidate started this sport** Allow anything sensible	**1**
3	**Who candidate did this sport with last time** Allow anything in a past time frame	**1**
4	**Why the candidate likes the sport** Allow anything sensible	**1**
5	**Appropriate beginning or ending to letter** The letter must also include the name of the person to whom it is being sent at the beginning, or the name of the person sending it at the other end for the communication mark to be awarded	**1**

- *Question 3(b): having a job versus focusing on study at the weekend*

Tick	Accept	Mark
1	**Whether the candidate has ever had a weekend job**	**1**
2	**What candidate thinks the benefits of working over weekends are** Allow anything sensible	**1**
3	**What candidate thinks the benefits of studying over weekends are** Allow anything sensible	**1**
4	**What candidate did last weekend** Insist on past time frame	**1**
5	**Appropriate elaboration of one of the bullet points** Final communication mark to be awarded flexibly for extra detail relating to any of the first four bullet points in the question.	**1**

- *Question 3(c): yesterday was your birthday, you went out with friends (narrative)*

Tick	Accept	Mark
1	**Where candidate went** Award communication mark for statement in past time frame of where candidate went	**1**
2	**What candidate did** Award communication mark for statement in past time frame of what candidate did	**1**
3	**What candidate ate** Award communication mark for statement in past time frame of what candidate ate	**1**
4	**Reaction to the day** Expect opinions/emotions	**1**
5	**Appropriate elaboration of one of the bullet points** Final communication mark to be awarded flexibly for extra detail relating to any of the first four bullet points in the question.	**1**

3.2 – award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters

Generic mark scheme for Accuracy of Characters (Question 3):

- Award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters, according to the Grade descriptors in the table below:

Grade descriptors for Accuracy of Characters (Question 3)

5	Highly accurate, with a wide range of characters including some more difficult or unusual ones correctly written, with occasional minor slips.
4	A good range of characters attempted with easy and moderately easy characters correctly written.
3	Limited range, but with most easy characters correctly written (or a wide range with a lot of errors).
2	A number of examples of easy characters correctly written.
1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of correctly written characters.
0	No examples of correctly written characters.

Total marks for Accuracy of Characters: 5

3.3 – award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures

Generic mark scheme for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures (Question 3):

- Award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures, according to the Grade descriptors in the table below:

Grade descriptors for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures (Question 3)

10/9	Highly accurate including use of more complex structures, but with occasional minor slips.
8/7	A little more ambitious than the 5/6 band. Accurate in the use of simple structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips.
6/5	Limited in range, but displays some control of simple structures.
4/3	Inconsistent, but a number of examples of accurate usage.
2/1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.
0	No examples of accurate usage.

Total marks for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures: 10

3.4 – award a mark out of 5 for Impression

Award a mark out of 5 for Impression, according to the conversion table below. The pro rata mark based on the Accuracy mark should serve as the first guide. This mark should be adjusted up or down by one mark where this is justified by the candidate's use of idiom, vocabulary and structures.

Conversion Table for Impression (Question 3)

Mark out of 15 (for Accuracy of Language)	Pro rata (Impression) Max 5
15	5
14	5
13	4
12	4
11	4
10	3
9	3
8	2
7	2
6	2
5	1
4	1
3	1
2	0
1	0
0	0

Total mark for Impression: 5

Total for Question 3: 25 marks

Note on using mark schemes with Grade descriptors

It is important that you award marks positively. In order to ensure that you reward achievement rather than penalise failure or omissions, you should start at the bottom of the mark scheme and work upwards through the descriptors when awarding marks.

You should adopt a 'best fit' approach. You must select the set of descriptors provided in the mark scheme that most closely describes the quality of the work being marked. As you work upwards through the mark scheme, you will eventually arrive at a set of descriptors that fits the candidate's performance. When you reach this point, you should always then check the descriptors in the band above to confirm whether or not there is just enough evidence to award a mark in the higher band.

For example, when marking Question 3 you may find that a candidate uses a variety of relevant vocabulary but has varied success with more complex structures. In such cases, you will need to award a mark that takes into account both the strengths and weaknesses of the piece of work.

To select the most appropriate mark within each set of descriptors, use the following guidance:

- If most of the descriptors fit the piece (and after you have considered the band above), award the top mark in the band.
- If there is just enough evidence (and you had perhaps been considering the band below), award the lowest mark in the band.

Note on irrelevant material

In the case of a deliberately evasive answer which consists entirely of irrelevant material exploited in defiance of the rubric, a score of 0 is given. These are extremely rare. The genuine attempt to answer the question which fails due to a misunderstanding of the rubric will normally lose Communication marks but will score for Language. You should consult your Team Leader.

When part of an answer is clearly irrelevant, highlight it and do not consider it when deciding on the Language mark. (e.g. Highlight and do not consider for Language an introduction to a question consisting of an unwanted self-portrait on the lines of: '*我叫小明。我十六岁。我住在 Sheffield。。*' or letter etiquette where a letter is not required.)

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