

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2014

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE
in Chinese(4CN0/01)
Pearson Edexcel Certificate
in Chinese(KCN0/01)

Paper 1: Listening

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International GCSE/Edexcel Certificate Chinese Paper 1 Listening Examiner Report

This is the first assessment of this International GCSE/Edexcel Certificate. This listening paper contributes 25% of the qualification.

The listening was assessed through an examination paper which lasted for 40 minutes, with an extra 5 minutes of reading time. The total mark for the paper was 50.

Both Cantonese and Mandarin options were available. The paper is set and marked by Edexcel.

The examination covers a range of topic areas as follows:

- home and abroad
- education and employment
- house, home and daily routines
- the modern world and the environment
- social activities, fitness and health.

Students are required to listen to a range of factual and non-factual material of varying lengths, in different contexts and in different registers.

The extracts will increase in length. The first passages will be the shortest and will be tested through non-verbal responses, such as ticked boxes or matching exercises. Subsequent passages will be tested through a range of question types, both verbal and non-verbal.

Questions 1, 2, 3, 6, 8

These were picture-based box-ticking questions. The majority of students handled Q1-Q3 very well and scored full marks. In Q6 and Q8 the extracts were longer and more complicated; some students failed to identify the correct information and lost some marks, such as 6(iii) and 8(ii).

Questions 4, 5, 7, 9

These were multiple-choice questions with verbal content. Students were required to listen to a range of factual and non-factual material of varying lengths, in different contexts, read questions and some choices in Chinese, and select the correct answers accordingly. The majority of students managed these questions well and only missed a few marks in 4(iii), 4(v), 5(v), 7(ii), 9(iii) and 9(v).

Question 10

This question was set in the target language and required answers in Chinese characters; the full mark was 7.

This was the most challenging question of the paper. Students were required to quickly identify relevant and accurate information from the densely compacted extract, and provided answers in correct written form.

The majority of students secured 2 or more marks in this question from questions 10(ii) and 10(iii) since numerical answers were accepted. For 10(ii), the key word 年级 which appeared in the question should be part of the correct answer. 10(iv) appeared to be accessible to most students since there were several options available, including 中国菜.

Students with good language ability also scored well for 10(i) and 10(iii) which involved more Chinese character writing. Some students found 10(i) was challenging. They were unable to identify the sound of 上个月 and wrongly gave 三个月 as answer.

The strongest students managed to score well in 10(vi) and 10(vii) which required the ability to identify the most relevant information and provide accurate answers. Students need to be able to write more complicated characters ie 10(v) 电影 and identify 10(vii) 听中文 as the correct answer from a lengthy extract.

Please note that homophones would not be accepted as the correct answers. Students would not score any marks if they wrote 10(iv) 工夫 for 功夫 and 10(v) 动物院/员, 东物院 for 动物园.

Apart from good listening comprehension skills, students who aim at an A grade must make sure they are familiar with everyday vocabulary and are able to write these in the correct forms.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

