

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2015

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 Examiners' Report

Overview

This listening paper accounts for 25% of the qualification. It is assessed through an examination paper which lasts for 40 minutes, with an extra 5 minutes of reading time. The total mark for the paper is 50. Both Cantonese and Mandarin options are available.

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 increase in length through the recording; the first passages are the shortest and are tested through non-verbal responses, such as tick boxes or matching exercises. Subsequent passages are tested through a range of question types, both verbal and non-verbal.

General Comments

Questions 1, 2, 3, 6, 8

These were picture-based box-ticking questions. Q1, Q2 and Q3 are short sentences and Q6 & Q8 were longer and more complicated. Almost all students did well in these questions and scored full marks; very few students failed to identify the correct information and lost marks in these questions.

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 make some choices in Chinese, selecting the correct answers accordingly. The majority of students managed these questions well and only lost marks in Q7 and Q9.

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 this listening paper. Students were required to quickly identify the relevant and accurate information from the densely compacted extract, and provided answers in a correct written form.

The majority of students secured 2 or more marks in this question from 10(i), 10(ii) and 10(iii) since numerical answers were accepted.

Students with good language ability also scored well for 10(v) and 10(vi) which involved more Chinese character writing.

The strongest students managed to score well in 10(iv) and 10(vii). 10(iv) required rather difficult character writing 厨师 and 10(vii) required the ability to identify the most relevant information and provide accurate, lengthy answers. For 10(vii), the correct answer was '这个名字 很容易记住/听了就不会忘'.

Students who scored highly in this exam not only had good listening comprehension skills but were also able to write Chinese characters with precision.

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>