



EXAMINERS' REPORT ON 2001 TERTIARY ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

SUBJECT: CHINESE: SECOND LANGUAGE

STATISTICS

Year	Number Who Sat	Non-Examination Candidates	Did Not Sit
2001	22	0	1
2000	14	0	0
1999	20	0	0

The Examiners' Report is written by the Chief Examiner (or another Examiner on their behalf) to comment on matters relating to the Tertiary Entrance Examination in their subject. The opinions and recommendations expressed in this report are those of the Chief Examiner and not necessarily representative of or endorsed by the Curriculum Council.

The Marking Guide provided at the end of this report was prepared for markers and may have been substantially amplified by discussions held in the pre-marking meeting. It is not intended as a set of model answers, and is not exhaustive as regards alternative answers. Some of the answers are less than perfect, but represent a standard of response that the examiners deemed sufficient to earn full marks. Teachers who use this guide should do so with its original purpose in mind.

SUMMARY/ABSTRACT

The number of candidates was twenty-two this year, with all but one sitting both oral and written sections. The examination results reflected the fact that, while all candidates were acceptable in terms of the eligibility criteria, almost all had, in fact, significant background in spoken Chinese, which undoubtedly accounts for the high mean of 72.05%. As the paper is set at a level appropriate to genuine second language learners, it is clear that these candidates may continue to suffer some disadvantage. This will continue to be a matter of some concern.

In the Examiners' Report for 2000, concern was expressed about the limited number of topics available for examination. It is pleasing to note that the Curriculum Council has now agreed to a combined list of topics for Years 11 and 12, giving both teachers and examiners greater flexibility.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The examination followed the structure of past years. It was evident that most candidates made a good effort to prepare for the oral and written examinations, but, as noted above, many candidates had a strong spoken language background and hence found the oral test and the aural comprehension sections very easy.

The total number of candidates remains small. This is due to the limited number of schools where Chinese is taught at Year 11 and 12 levels. The lack of encouragement to continue Chinese language studies and the perception that TEE Chinese is likely to be scaled down also combine to keep numbers low.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS

Oral Examination

The weighting for the oral component of the examination was 20% of the total examination mark. This component consisted of an interview in Chinese of approximately 15 minutes length, within the topics of the syllabus. As part of the interview and, at the beginning, candidates could nominate one of the modules in the syllabus as a basis for conversation. During this part of the oral examination, candidates spoke on the topics set down in the syllabus for this subject: self and others, having fun and studying in China. The range of marks, from 10/20 to 20/20, with a mean of 14.52 in this section, reflects the high proportion of candidates with a significant background in the language.

Written Paper

Aural Comprehension Component

The weighting for this component of the examination was 20% of the total examination mark. This component consisted of four texts, each followed by a set of questions. The mean mark of 15.09/20, with a range of 10/20 to 19/20, was higher than the previous year, reflecting the advantaged background of the majority of candidates.

Reading Comprehension

The weighting for this component of the examination was 20% of the total examination mark. It consisted of questions on five texts including several realia. The spread of marks from 5/20 (2 candidates) to 19/20 produced a mean of 14.27/20. Given that candidates are permitted to use dictionaries, the low marks of some candidates was surprising.

Writing Tasks

The weighting for this component was 40% of the total examination mark. The component consisted of three questions. While many candidates performed well, there was a range of marks from 14/40 to 37/40. The mean for this section was 28.82/40. Question 2 involved a choice of two questions out of three, while Question 3 involved a choice of one question out of three. There was a fairly even range of choices across both questions.

POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SYLLABUS COMMITTEE

The fact that some candidates have strong backgrounds in speaking and listening, yet are eligible to take this subject, suggests the need for a revision of the eligibility criteria for second language subjects. This is to ensure that genuine non-background candidates are not discouraged from taking Chinese: Second Language and sitting the TEE.

Geoffrey Davis
December 2001

2001 Examining Panel

Chief Examiner: Mr Geoffrey Davis
Deputy: Dr Wang Yi
Third Member: Mr James Cheah

Chief Marker: Mr Geoffrey Davis

ORAL EXAMINATION - MARKING KEY

TOPICS:

1. SELF AND OTHERS

Physical appearance, personality, interests and preferences

你有朋友吗？他／她是谁？你为什么喜欢他／她？谈谈你的
最好朋友：性格，嗜好…？你们常常一起出去玩儿吗？……

请你说一说你的家里人。你家有几口人？他们是谁？

你是老几？

你爸爸／妈妈 怎么样？你和父母之间的关系怎么样？……

周末的时候你和家人喜欢做什么？

你有空的时候喜欢参加什么活动？

你和朋友们一起（看书；听音乐；看电影；看电视？

参加运动）吗？

你们一起去什么地方？

谁是你最喜欢的的老师？他／她是什么老师？为什么？

你可以形容他／她吗？

2. HAVING FUN

What's on television?

A night out—movies, sporting events, performances

你喜欢看电视吗？每天看几个小时的电视？……

你最喜欢看哪种电视节目？

除了（…）以外你还喜欢什么电视节目？

你常常去看电影吗？你平常去哪儿看电影？

你一个人去看电影？跟谁一起去？电影票贵不贵？

电影院离你家很近吗？……

你觉得看体育比赛有意思吗？

你最喜欢看什么比赛？你喜欢参加运动吗？哪种？……

你常常去音乐会吗？去什么地方听？你喜欢听哪种音乐？你有没有

你最喜欢的歌唱家？是谁？你为什么喜欢他／她？

你喜欢中国流行音乐吗？……

你常常去迪斯科吗？跟谁一起去？去哪个迪斯科？你跳舞跳得好
吗？…

你说卡拉OK好不好玩？你喜欢唱歌吗？你唱歌的时候，唱英文
歌还是中文歌呢？……

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WRITTEN EXAMINATION - MARKING KEY

SECTION ONE: AURAL COMPREHENSION

(20 Marks)

Four passages in Chinese will be read to you. Each passage will be read twice. Listen to each one carefully. You may read the questions and make notes while listening to them. Then answer the questions in the spaces provided on this paper. Answer in ENGLISH.

Question 1 (5 Marks)

- (a) What season is being described? (1)
Winter
- (b) What is necessary during this season? (1)
Wear (suitable/enough) clothes
- (c) What often happens in schools? (1)
Students often get the flu, feel unwell, sore throat, headache, fever
- (d) What should you do if it happens to you? (1)
Rest at home and if it is serious see doctor
- (e) In what circumstances should you use the telephone? (1)
If you get sick at school you should: : ome.

Question 2 (5 Marks)

Answer in ENGLISH.

- (a) What is the reason for this conversation? (2)
Tourist has lost passport etc and goes to police post to report loss
- (b) In what circumstances did the problem arise? (1)
When she was shopping
- (c) Why was the problem so important? (1)
She had also lost 5 airline tickets and \$100 HK dollars
- (d) What was the outcome? (1)
She got her things back with a warning from the policeman to be careful

Question 3 (5 Marks)

Listen to the passage for Question 3

Answer in ENGLISH

- (a) How many books in the Harry Potter series have been published and how many more are planned? (1)
4, 3
- (b) How have these books changed children's habits? (2)
More reading, less TV and time on computer games
- (c) What language have these books been translated into? (1)
Chinese

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- (d) What effect did Jin Yong's books have on this person's father? (1)
Couldn't eat, sleep, watch TV

Question 4 (5 Marks)

Answer in ENGLISH.

- (a) What information does the person want? (2)
Wants to get from UWA to the Modern Art Gallery
- (b) Why does she want the information? (1)
There's a Chinese Art Exhibition opening
- (c) What problem does the information pose? (1)
She will be unable to get home by bus as there are no buses after 8 pm
- (d) How did she plan to resolve it? (1)
Taking a bus in and a taxi back home.

SECTION TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

20 Marks

Answer all questions in ENGLISH. Make sure your answers contain all relevant details.

Question 1 (5 marks)

Answer in ENGLISH.

- (a) What is the relationship of Zihai to the writer? (1)
Classmate (1/2) and best friend (1/2)
- (b) What did they do on Saturday? (1)
Went to den/library (1/2) chatted and played computer games (1/2)
- (c) Name the dishes served there? (1)
Steak, sausages, salads, curried chicken. (2 or 3 = 1/2, 4 = 1)
- (d) What happened before they left for the park? (1)
It started to rain. (1)
- (e) What did they end up doing? Why? (1)
Went to see a movie (1/2) because rain didn't stop (1/2)

Question 2 (5 marks)

Answer in ENGLISH.

- (a) Who were on the road? (1)
A merchant with a horse and a donkey (2 = 1/2, 3 = 1)
- (b) What request was made by the donkey? (1)
Asked the horse to help vary the load (1/2) because he was tired (1/2)

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- (c) What was the horse's response? (1)
Said it wasn't his business.
- (d) Why did the horse regret its response in the end? (2)
The donkey dropped dead (1) and the horse had to carry the lot. (1)

Question 3 (4 Marks)

Answer in ENGLISH.

- (a) Describe Xiaoping's background. (1)
Born in China (1/2) came with parents to WA at age 7 (1/2)
- (b) What was she like as a child? (1)
Naughty and very active (1/2) only quiet when asleep (1/2)
- (c) What are her good qualities? (1)
Very sociable (1/2), likes to help others (1/2)
- (d) What are her weaknesses? (1)
Very quick tempered (1)

Question 4 (3 marks)

- (a) What does this stamp commemorate? (1)
90th anniversary (1/2) of the birth of Mao Zedong (1/2)
- (b) What is this person's job? Where does he/she live? (1)
University professor (1/2) Queensland or Australia (1/2)
- (c) What is this place? (1)
North Western Industrial University (1/2) Xi'an China (1/2)

Question 5 (3 Marks)

- (a) What kind of business is being advertised here? (1)
Travel agency (1/2) specialising in travel to China (1/2)
- (b) Apart from food, what else does the advertiser offer? (2)
Visits to famous historic sites and scenic places (1) and high class comfortable hotels (1)

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SECTION THREE: WRITING

(40 Marks)

Answer all three questions. Write all the answers in CHINESE CHARACTERS.

Question 1 (10 marks)

Answer EACH of the following in about 25 characters.

- (a) Write a caption for a photograph of your class that you are sending to your pen-friend in China. Tell your friend what the photo is and indicate where you are in the picture.
- (b) Your Chinese pen friend asks you to tell him/her what subjects you study. Draw up the timetable you plan to send him/her.
- (c) It is your Hong Kong friend's birthday tomorrow. What message will you e-mail to him/her?

Each response to be marked out of 10. Up to 4 points for content, up to 3 points for correctness of grammar and word usage, up to 3 points for appropriateness of language, style and format. Total 30/3 = 10. Round marks down.

Question 2 (10 Marks)

Answer any TWO of the following in about 60 characters each.

- (a) You are studying in China and want suggestions from your Chinese teacher about where to go when you are free on the following weekend. Write the dialogue you had with the teacher.
- (b) Describe a character in one of your favourite television programs. (You may give the title of the program in English).
- (c) Write a note to a close friend to thank him/her for taking you out to a party last Friday night.
- (d) You have been asked to write something about your hobbies for your Chinese class wall newspaper. What will you write?

Each response to be marked out of 10. Up to 4 points for content, up to 3 points for correctness of grammar and word usage, up to 3 points for appropriateness of language, style and format. Total 20/2 = 10. Round marks down.

Question 3 (20 Marks)

Answer any ONE of the following in 100-120 characters.

- (a) Write a review of a book you have read recently. (You may give the title in English).
- (b) You are studying in China and are going to travel around during your summer holidays. You are required by your teachers to provide an itinerary of your trip, indicating which places you are going to visit and how you will go to each, how long you plan to stay in each, what you want to do there. What will you tell your teachers?
- (c) You are about to leave China after completing your exchange visit. Write a letter of thanks to your host family. Be specific about the most important things they have done for you.

Each response to be marked out of 20. Up to 7 points for content, up to 7 points for correctness of grammar and word usage, up to 6 points for appropriateness of language, style and format. Up to 2 marks may be deducted for inappropriate length.