

Examiners' Report
June 2014

GCE Chinese 6CN02 01

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Introduction

This paper rewards students for their understanding of spoken and written Chinese, their ability to transfer meaning from Chinese into English and their ability to produce a continuous piece of writing in Chinese.

This paper consists of 3 sections which involve listening, reading and writing skills, with a total of 70 marks available. The time allocation for this paper is 2 hours and 30 minutes and there was little evidence that students did not have sufficient time to complete all the questions.

The question booklet is divided into traditional and simplified characters and students are required to specify at the beginning of the booklet their preferred option. Students are required to respond to questions in the booklet in either traditional or simplified characters, but not both.

Question 2 (x)

Students responded well in general with only a very small number of students losing marks in this question.

Question 3 (x)

Students responded well in general, with a small number of students choosing 果茶 instead of 冰茶 for 3(c); 身体不好 instead of 睡眠不好 for 3(d).

A considerable number of students did not circle the correct answer in the bracket as instructed. The correct answer was accepted in whichever form it was offered but students are advised to comply with the rubric to avoid penalising themselves.

Question 4 (x)

This question carried the largest number of marks amongst the listening questions and students were required to give answers in Chinese characters. The vast majority of students appeared to understand the extract well, but some struggled to give correct answers in characters and lost marks.

Common mistakes included (a) 长成 for 长城; (b) 地里, 地历 or 地理 for 地理; unable to write (c) 地图 and (d) 跑步; using 时候 instead of 小时 for (g) and writing 照想机 for 照相机 (h).

The characters involved in this question are basic items of vocabulary in daily use. Students should keep practising writing characters while preparing for this exam.

TRADITIONAL/FULL CHARACTERS

Radio Interview

4 根據對話內容，用中文回答下面的問題。

(a) 威廉(William)的展覽是關於什麼的?

(1)

長城

(b) 威廉小的時候，最喜歡什麼課?

(1)

地理

(c) 老師給了他什麼?

(1)

地圖

(d) 威廉年輕的時候，有什麼愛好?

(1)

去看長

(e) 誰告訴威廉可以去中國?

(1)

朋友

(f) 威廉第一次去中國，是什麼時候？

(1)

1986

(g) 威廉那個時候跑馬拉松要用多久？

(1)

2:30

(h) 威廉去中國的時候，帶着什麼？

(1)

~~相機~~ 相機



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Examiner Comments

The student only scored in (e) and (f). It is likely the student understands the other questions but is unable to score more by providing correct written answers.

Question 5 (x)

The question required answers in English and no mark was given for answers written in Chinese.

Lengthy answers were not required. Students were expected to show precise understanding and to provide accurate, relevant answers based on the original passages.

Common mistakes were:

(a) Missed the key word '最' and put 'good result' instead of 'the best result'

(b) Some students were not aware of the difference between 'her parents can see her everyday' and 'she can see her parents every day', the former being the correct answer.

(c) Some students were not aware of the difference between 'a trip' and 'a holiday'. The choice of prepositions was sometimes crucial. 'He needs money for the trip to South America 去南美洲旅行' was different from 'travel in South America 在南美洲旅行'. Some students made careless mistakes and mixed up 南, 西, 北 and/or 美国, 非洲.

(d) Students were expected to include the verb 'to learn' in their answers.

TRADITIONAL/FULL CHARACTERS

(a) What does Mading (馬丁) need to do to get into his ideal university?

(1)

best, ~~good~~ ~~result~~ best result

(b) (i) What do Wang Chen's (王晨) parents want her to do?

(1)

apply a university which is near her home.

(ii) What is the biggest advantage of doing this?

her parent

(1)

So that ~~she~~ can see her everyday.

(c) Why does Dawei (大偉) need to earn money?

have money to go.

(1)

he wants to travel with his friend, but he don't

(d) What are Xixi's (西西) plans after leaving school?

(1)

go to learn performance.



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Examiner Comments

The student scored full marks from this question by providing precise and accurate answers.

TRADITIONAL/FULL CHARACTERS

(a) What does Mading (馬丁) need to do to get into his ideal university?

(1)

Work hard and get good results.

(b) (i) What do Wang Chen's (王晨) parents want her to do?

(1)

Choose a University near her house, so she can live at home

(ii) What is the biggest advantage of doing this?

(1)

She can see her parents everyday.

(c) Why does Dawei (大偉) need to earn money?

(1)

To go on a holiday in South Africa with his friends.

(d) What are Xixi's (西西) plans after leaving school?

(1)

To learn and study about performing.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

The student did not score in (a), (bii) and (d).

(a) The expected correct answer was 'to get the best results'. The answer 'get good results' was not precise enough;

(bii) The expected correct answer was 'Her parents can see her everyday', not the other way around.

(d) 'to learn performing' will be a good enough answer. Adding 'and study about' changed the original meaning

Question 6 (x)

Common mistakes were:

(a) Some students did NOT read the question with sufficient care and gave irrelevant answers, e. g. the transport arrangements to the museum.

(b) The vast majority of the candidates gave the correct answer, but some missed marks by giving answers such as 'Saturdays and Sundays', 'weekends' instead of the correct answer 'public holidays'.

(c) Students needed to provide any two of the following to score the full mark: extend opening hours on Thursdays and Fridays (till 8:30pm); organise (specialist) talks weekly and arrange cultural activities for schools.

(d) The correct answer was 'foreign languages' or a similar expression. Neither 'international language' nor 'translate' would score any mark.

Question 6 (y)

SIMPLIFIED CHARACTERS

- 6 Read the following passage and answer the questions **in English**, basing your answers exclusively on the information in the passage.

文化博物馆交通便利，乘坐地铁或公共汽车都可以到达。

博物馆对所有游客免费开放。除了公共假期休息以外，每天的参观时间是早上十点至下午五点半。

为了鼓励更多人来参观，每周四和周五开放时间延长至晚上八点半，每周举办专家讲座。此外，博物馆也可为学校安排文化活动。

如需要外语服务，必须电邮预约，最低收费为100元。

(a) What is the charge to enter the Museum?

(1)

Underground ~~at~~ and bus.

(b) On which days is the Museum closed?

(1)

Holiday.

(c) What does the Museum do to encourage more visitors? Give **two** details.

(2)

The closed time is 20:30 on every Thursday and Friday.

There is a ~~to~~ lecture every week.

(d) What service needs to be booked in advance?

(1)

Foreign Language service



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Examiner Comments

The student didn't score in (a) and (b).

(a) The provided answer was irrelevant to the question.

(b) The expected correct answer was more specific, ie. 'public holiday', not a a general 'holiday'



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Examiner Tip

Students are suggested to read questions carefully and provide accurate answers accordingly.

Be aware of the selection of proper phrases in English.

6 Read the following passage and answer the questions in English, basing your answers exclusively on the information in the passage.

文化博物馆交通便利，乘坐地铁或公共汽车都可以到达。

博物馆对所有游客免费开放。除了公共假期休息以外，每天的参观时间是早上十点至下午五点半。

为了鼓励更多人来参观，每周四和周五开放时间延长至晚上八点半，每周举办专家讲座。此外，博物馆也可为学校安排文化活动。

如需要外语服务，必须电邮预约，最低收费为100元。

(a) What is the charge to enter the Museum?

(1)

100 yuans (100 元)

(b) On which days is the Museum closed?

(1)

~~Thursdays and Fridays~~ Saturdays and Sundays
~~Saturdays and Sundays~~

(c) What does the Museum do to encourage more visitors? Give **two** details.

(2)

They organize cultural activities for schools and on
fridays, and thursdays afternoon they divide the families on to
several groups to go around
the museum.

(d) What service needs to be booked in advance?

(1)

Foreign language service



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Examiner Comments

The student did not score in (a) (b) and only scored 1 mark in (c).

(a) '100 dollars' was mentioned but it was for 'foreign language service', not the charge to enter the museum'

(b) 'Saturdays and Sundays' was not the alternative answers for 'public holiday'.

(c) 'on Fridays and Thursdays afternoon they divided the family onto several groups to go around the museum' was a made-up answer and not related to the original passage.



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Examiner Tip

Students are suggested only provide the precise answers based on the original passage.

(ii) Why are these courses worth studying?

It helps to know more about Chinese culture. (1)



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Examiner Comments

The student did not score in (e) and (f) by providing over-generalisation, glossing over precise answers.

(e) The expected correct answer was 'visit famous sites and 'learn Taichi'; obviously 'look at the history of it and learning fighting' was unclear and ambiguous.

(f) 'Local/regional food and types of tea' was the expected correct answer. 'learning Chinese food and tea' was not specific enough.

通	过	在	中	秋	节	比	赛	吃	月	饼	可	以	不	但	135
让	所	有	人	遵	守	中	秋	习	俗	而	且	能	够	品	150
尝	各	式	各	样	的	月	饼	至	于	演	讲	中	秋	典	165
故	不	仅	能	够	更	好	地	让	师	生	明	白	中	秋	180
的	来	历	和	意	义	又	能	够	通	过	故	事	分	享	195
增	近	大	家	的	感	情	并	且	锻	炼	了	学	生	的	210

演	讲	能	力	希	望	校	长	能	够	采	纳	我	的	建	225
议	我	们	都	对	中	秋	节	的	庆	典	充	满	期	待	240
祝														255	
身	体	健	康											270	



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Examiner Comments

This excellent writing scored 14 for content and response and 13 for quality of language, total score was 27/30.

The writing was well developed in a cohesive way. All points were evenly covered. The suggested activities, ie. taste mooncakes and speech competition were suitable for a school setting and the reasons for these suggestion were convincing and relevant.

The language was controlled with a high level of accuracy and transitions from point to point were smooth.

The writing slightly exceeded the word limit however all the relevant information was included within the word limit.

Proper register was applied and the student pretty much completed the writing in a correct letter format (other than name and date missing).

Question 8 (y)

SIMPLIFIED CHARACTERS

Please put punctuation marks in the spaces between squares, as shown in the example below. Do not put punctuation inside the squares.

Start a new line to begin a new paragraph.

Do not exceed the stipulated word limit (180-200 characters).

Eg. 请 注 意 把 标 点 符 号 写 在 方 格 外 的 空 间 ， 不 要 填 写 在 方 格 内 。

分 段 请 开 新 行 。

不 要 超 出 规 定 字 数 。

读 集 做 树 做 树

每	个	中	秋	节	，	妈	妈	和	爸	爸	会	去	集	很	15	
多	吃	物	。	他	们	会	读	月	饼	。	鱼	和			30	
糕	采	我	最	喜	欢	吃	月	饼	，	因	为	好	味	道	45	
我	也	喜	欢	吃	团	圆	饭	，	因	为	好	味	道		60	
学	校	不	会	对	我	们	告	诉	我	们	会	做	什	么	75	
中	秋	节	活	动	，	我	们	都	会	认	识	传	说	故	事	90
也	会	拜	年	知	看	书	。								105	
中	秋	节	的	活	动	，	我	家	人	去	参	加	大	家	会	120
吃	团	圆	饭	和	月	饼	。	每	年	一	个	人	会	说	传	135
说	故	事	，	比	家	人	听								150	
学	生	会	有	很	多	好	处	。	学	生	不	夸	他	的	爸	165
妈	说	传	说	故	事	，	学	生	可	以	尊	敬	家	人	180	
做	团	圆	饭	。											195	

可	以	举	办	猜	灯	谜	活	动	和	-	起	吃	-	顿	165
团	年	饭	。	这	些	活	动	应	该	由	老	师	来		180
让	学	生	懂	得	更	多	的	知	识	。	以	上	就	是	225
我	给	的	一	点	建	议	。	期	待	你	的	回	信	。	240
										学	生	成	意	书	255
										六	月	五	日		270



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Examiner Comments

The student scored 10 for Content and Response and 13 for Quality of Language. Total 23/30.

The student understood the task well and responded to all the points. Reasonable suggestions on activities were made with convincing reasons. Point 3 and 4 were developed successfully in a balanced way.

The significant mistake was muddling up the Mid-autumn festival with another Chinese Festival '七夕', also '团年饭' should be '团圆饭'.

Communication was very good and language was generally fluent. Suitable register and letter format were applied.

Paper Summary

Based on performance in this exam, students are offered the following advice:

Listening section

1. Keep practising commonly used, basic and familiar characters;

Reading section

2. Read the questions and the rubric carefully and adhere to the requirements;
3. Provide *precise* and accurate answers;
4. Check your English, avoid misspellings and grammatical mistakes;

Writing section

5. Be aware of the required format and word limit;
6. Produce a balanced, coherent piece of writing which responds to all the bullet points.

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>

Ofqual



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