



GCSE

CHINESE (MANDARIN)

8673/RF: Reading Foundation
Report on the Examination

8673
June 2019

Version: 1.0

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General comment

This is the first reading comprehension of the new specification, covering a wide range of topics. The mean mark on the paper was around 27 out of 60. The majority of students responded well to the questions, but some students left unanswered the questions which required an answer in English and the Section B translation. Students' handwriting was generally legible although occasionally proved to be challenging to decipher. Many of the questions mirrored those in the Specimen Assessment Materials and students were generally well prepared.

Question 1

This question asked students to demonstrate their knowledge on the vocabulary of hobbies. Pupils were successful on 01.1 and 01.2, with around 82% and 74% of students answering correctly. Over half of the pupils gained the mark for 01.3.

Question 2

This question was answered well with about 69% gaining the mark for 02.1 and about 72% for 02.2. Some students opted for 'England' in 02.1 despite the fact that the text said 从美国来到北京. Half of the students gave incorrect answers because of distractors 数学 and 英文 in 02.3. In 02.4, only around 30% of students were familiar with the expression 做作业. Many wrote down 'study' and 'play the games' without gaining the mark.

Question 3

Approximately 64% students provided correct responses for 03.1, but many missed key words 喜欢 and 学. Most of students found it was challenging to associate 上网到十二点才睡觉 to an unhealthy living style in 03.2.

Question 4

Most of the students provided the correct answers in 04.1 and 04.2. Nearly half of the students were unfamiliar with the item of vocabulary on the direction 北方. In part 04.4, it was shown that the NT question type can be challenging, but some students made intelligent attempts.

Question 5

Only around 9% of students in 05.1 and around 7% in 05.2 were able to give both the correct colours and reasons. Some basic vocabulary like colours would be worth practising with students.

Question 6

This was the first of the overlap questions (therefore targeted at the higher grades) and some students found it challenging. About 73% of students gave the correct answer in 06.3. Students were confused by 水村 and the number of 四百八十 with only around 10% answering correctly in 06.1 and around 22% in 06.2. Approximately 57% of students did not recognize 多少 in sub-question 06.4.

Question 7

It was pleasing that students did well on this overlap question and around 59% provided a correct response for 07.2, and about 71% for 07.3. Less than half of students were unfamiliar with the use of the expression 给, with 57% of students gaining a mark for part 07.1.

Question 8

In 08.1 and 08.3, many students did not score the marks for understanding 老人之家 and 接电话. The distractor 帮老人购物 led many students to opt for the option Xiaohong. 教汉语 in sub-question 08.2 was well recognized by students with approximately 57% of students gaining a mark.

Question 9

This question was relatively well answered with around 62% of students scoring the mark for 09.1 and 55% for 09.2. Students were more challenged by 09.3 and clearly 最喜欢 and 饺子 were often unfamiliar. In 09.4, about 36% of students chose incorrectly perhaps due to not noting the negative form 不是很喜欢.

Question 10

More than half of students gained the mark for 10.1 with about 18% of students being led to opt for the distractor 去体育馆看篮球比赛. Just below three quarters of students did well in 10.2 as they were familiar with the vocabulary 图书馆. In 10.3, half of the students did not recognize the verbs 看 and 打.

Question 11

Less than a quarter of students were familiar with the term 单人房 and 双人房. 11.2 and 11.3 were answered well in the main. Around 68% of students answered 11.2 correctly. More than half the students did well on 11.3.

Question 12

Pleasingly, the vast majority of students scored at least 1 mark in this challenging four-mark question, with just over 60% gaining all of the marks available.

Question 13

This is the third overlap question. Students found it to be the most challenging even though the language was not particularly complex. 13.1, 13.3 and 13.4 were poorly answered and 三千多个学生, 学习友好的东西 and 变得更好 were not interpreted successfully. 13.2 was better answered.

Question 14

This was the fourth overlap question, targeting the higher grades. Many students answered 14.2 and 14.4 correctly. Parts of 14.1 看病人 and 14.3 建筑工程师 were well answered.

Question 15 (Translation)

This question required students to translate a short passage into English. For this question, precise translations of the text, including items of the vocabulary and tenses, were required. About 8% of

students did not attempt to answer the question at all. Approximately 11% of students gained four marks and only around 3% of students scored 6. The first marking point 我们一家人 was well answered and the third 去年 Many students translated 海边小镇 as 'beach'. 风景很漂亮 was often not attempted.

Advice to students:

- answer every question, especially those that require written answers
- re-read what you have written to check it makes sense
- translate precisely following the original text. Pick out the tenses and connecting words
- read the whole text and be aware of the distractors.

Use of statistics

Statistics used in this report may be taken from incomplete processing data. However, this data still gives a true account on how students have performed for each question.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.