



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

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FIRST LANGUAGE CHINESE

0509/01

Paper 1 Reading

For Examination from 2010

SPECIMEN MARK SCHEME

2 hours

MAXIMUM MARK: 50

All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in responses should be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Question 1

- 20 marks will be available for Reading: these will be awarded according to the detailed mark scheme below.
- 5 marks will be available for Writing (see table).

Reading

- (a) He takes us through the seasons of the year (spring, summer, autumn). [1]
- (b) He sits where his father used to sit (1). His needs have reduced themselves to the essentials: food, drink, land (1). He thinks about death (1). [3]
- (c) They are good to him (1). They visit and bring him delicacies (1). But he doesn't feel this is what he needs/they don't really understand what he needs (1). [3]
- (d) (i) They don't want him to hear/they feel guilty. [1]
- (ii) *Any 4 of:* [4]
 They do not feel an emotional/a close tie to the land.
 They see it as a way of making money.
 They are happy to sell it.
 They can exploit it thanks to modern developments (the railroad).
 The second son intends to grow rice for sale, not to live off the produce of his own land.
- (e) *Any 5 of:* [5]
 Initially he is angry.
 He sees his son's proposed course of action as wicked.
 He is so angry he almost chokes on his words.
 His emotions are so strong he nearly falls over.
 He then starts to cry.
 He is so overwhelmed with grief at what he has heard he can't find the strength to express anger: he is now 'muttering'.
 He feels that if the land is sold there is no way for him to go on.
- (f) Because of their unspoken mutual understanding (1): they both know that they are lying, because the minute WL is dead they'll carry out their plan (1), but they're willing to 'soothe' him both from a sense of filial duty/affection and because it saves trouble (1). [3]

Writing: Accuracy of Language

5 (Excellent)	Clear, carefully chosen language with complex syntax where appropriate. Varied, precise vocabulary. Hardly any or no technical errors.
4 (Good)	Clear, appropriate language. Appropriate vocabulary. Few technical errors.
3 (Adequate)	Language generally appropriate, but unsophisticated and generally simple syntax. Adequate vocabulary. Some technical errors.
2 (Weak)	Unsophisticated language, not always appropriate. Very simple syntax with some clumsiness. Thin vocabulary. A number of technical errors.
1 (Poor)	Thin, inappropriate use of language. Confused and obscure. Many errors.

Question 2

- 15 marks are available for Reading: each relevant point extracted by the candidate from the texts is ticked (see below). A mark is awarded for each tick up to a maximum of 15 marks.
- 10 marks are available for Writing (see tables).

Reading

Award up to 15 marks for relevant comments, e.g.

(a)

- 1 Wang Lung's life is dictated by the rhythms of the land/agricultural year.
- 2 And this connection to the land means his life follows a similar pattern to his father's.
- 3 He feels a strong sense of communion with the land: he picks up the earth and holds it.
- 4 For him the land is an essential in the same way that food and drink are.
- 5 He connects the earth very strongly with both life...
- 6 ...and death.
- 7 His connection to the land allows him to view his own death with equanimity as part of the steady rhythms of nature.
- 8 He sees the land as a binding force to keep family together.
- 9 He sees the land as an essential part of himself: he cannot imagine going on without it.
- 10 The love of the land goes back thousands of years.
- 11 Existence of ancient traditions of worshipping the god of land and the god of grain.
- 12 In more modern times the connection to the land has been expressed in festivals such as National Land Day, days of thanksgiving and celebrations of harvest.
- 13 'Leave some land for your offspring to cultivate'.

(b)

- 14 Nowadays there is a greater scientific understanding of the land...
- 15 ...but less of an emotional connection.
- 16 Wang Lung's sons can contemplate selling the land.
- 17 Growing importance of environment issues will affect future attitudes.

Writing: Style and Organisation

5 (Excellent)	Excellent expression and focus with assured use of own words. Good summary style with orderly grouping of ideas; excellent linkage. Answer has sense of purpose.
4 (Good)	Good expression in recognisable summary style. Attempts to focus and to group ideas; good linkage.
3 (Adequate)	Satisfactory expression in own words. Reasonably concise with some sense of order. Occasional lapses of focus.
2 (Weak)	Limited expression but mostly in own words. Some sense of order but little sense of summary. Tendency to lose focus (e.g. by including some anecdote); thread not always easy to follow.
1 (Poor)	Expression just adequate; maybe list-like. Considerable lifting; repetitive. Much irrelevance.

Writing: Accuracy of Language

5 (Excellent)	Clear, carefully chosen language with complex syntax where appropriate. Varied, precise vocabulary. Hardly any or no technical errors.
4 (Good)	Clear, appropriate language. Appropriate vocabulary. Few technical errors.
3 (Adequate)	Language generally appropriate, but unsophisticated and generally simple syntax. Adequate vocabulary. Some technical errors. Some lifting.
2 (Weak)	Unsophisticated language, not always appropriate. Very simple syntax with some clumsiness. Thin vocabulary. A number of technical errors OR language is almost entirely lifted.
1 (Poor)	Thin, inappropriate use of language. Confused and obscure. Many errors.