

Cambridge IGCSE™

MANDARIN CHINESE**0547/21**

Paper 2 Reading

May/June 2026**MARK SCHEME**Maximum Mark: 40

Published

This mark scheme contains the instructions and marking guidance that our examiners used to mark candidate responses for this component.

Before they start marking, examiners complete a standardisation process. They review a range of candidate responses and discuss the mark scheme in detail to agree which answers can and cannot be accepted. Examiners award marks where it is clear that candidate responses have met the requirements of the mark scheme. These requirements may vary between different components or different versions of the same component, depending on the exact requirements of the question and the candidate responses seen during the standardisation process.

Sometimes, our mark schemes may allow marks to be awarded to responses which contain elements that are factually incorrect or for content not covered by the syllabus. We do this in response to the demands of a specific question to support candidates and make sure that our assessments are fair. However, these allowances should not be used as a guide for teaching and learning.

We cannot discuss the mark scheme with schools, and we recommend that schools read the mark scheme together with the assessment material and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

This document consists of **11** printed pages.

General marking principles

All examiners must apply these marking principles when marking candidate responses.

1	Examiners must award marks for each response in line with: - the specific content defined in the mark scheme - the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the level descriptions - the standard of response required as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.
2	Examiners must award whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).
3	Examiners must award marks positively . This means that: - marks are not deducted for errors or omissions - marks are awarded for correct/valid answers as defined in the mark scheme and also for other valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme referring to your team leader as appropriate - the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar are judged only when the mark scheme indicates that these features are specifically assessed in the question. However, the meaning of all responses must be unambiguous.
4	Examiners must consistently apply the requirements of the mark scheme and any rules for what to do when candidates have not followed instructions correctly.
5	Examiners must use the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme, unless limited by the quality of the candidate responses seen.
6	Examiners must award marks according to the mark scheme and must not award marks with grade thresholds or grade descriptions in mind.

Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standardisation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
	Unclear
	Omission mark
	Benefit of the doubt
	Harmless addition
	Irrelevant
	Indicates that the point has been noted, but no credit has been given.
	No benefit of doubt given
	Lifted material
	Correct point
Highlighter	Highlighting areas of text

Annotation	Meaning
	Incorrect point

Additional Guidance

The following guidance underpins the detailed instructions provided in the mark scheme. Where a decision is taken to deviate from this guidance for a particular question, this will be specified in the mark scheme.

Often the additional guidance points will have to be weighed up against each other, e.g. the answer might look or sound like the intended word/phrase in Chinese, but if what the candidate has written means something different in Chinese from what is expected, the mark cannot be awarded.

It is not possible to list all acceptable alternatives in the mark scheme. If you encounter an answer which is not covered by the mark scheme, you will need to make a decision about whether it communicates the required elements (in consultation with your Team Leader if necessary, or with your Product Manager if you are a single examiner), and award marks accordingly.

- **Crossing out:**

(a)	If a candidate changes his/her mind over an answer and crosses out an attempt, award a mark if the final attempt is correct.
(b)	If a candidate crosses out an answer <u>to a whole question</u> but makes no second attempt at it, mark the crossed-out work.

- **More than the stipulated number of boxes ticked/crossed by the candidate:**

(a)	If more than one attempt is visible, but the candidate has clearly indicated which attempt is his/her final answer (e.g. by crossing out other attempts or by annotating the script in some way), mark in the usual way.
(b)	If two attempts are visible (e.g. two boxes ticked instead of the one box stipulated), and neither has been crossed out/discounted by the candidate, no mark can be awarded.

- **For questions requiring more than one element for the answer, (1) and (2), where the answers are interchangeable:**

(a)	Both of the correct answers are on line 1 and line 2 is blank (or vice versa) = 2 marks
(b)	Both of the correct answers are on line 1 and line 2 contains a wrong answer (or vice versa) = 1 mark

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- **Mark for communication:** Answers requiring the use of Chinese (rather than a non-verbal response) should be marked for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies provided that the message is clear. However, do **not** accept incorrect Chinese if the word written by the candidate means something else in Chinese (unless the mark scheme specifies otherwise).

(a)	If you read aloud what the candidate has written, does it sound like the correct answer? Would a native speaker of Chinese understand it?
(b)	Does what the candidate has written look like the correct answer, e.g. one stroke missing but no other word created? Would a native speaker of Chinese understand it?
(c)	Accept incorrect person and possessive adjectives unless the mark scheme specifies otherwise.

- Incorrect Chinese which constitutes a word in any language other than Chinese is marked (i) on the basis of whether it is accepted or rejected in the mark scheme and (ii) if it is not mentioned in the mark scheme, on the basis of points (a) to (c) above.

Annotations used in the mark scheme:

(a)	INV = invalidation. This is used when the additional material included by the candidate is judged to invalidate an otherwise correct answer and therefore prevents him/her from scoring the mark. (INV = 0)
(b)	tc = 'tout court'. This means that, on its own, the material is not sufficient to score the mark.
(c)	HA = harmless addition. This means that the candidate has included additional material which, in conjunction with the correct answer, does not prevent him/her from scoring the mark.

- **No response and '0' marks:**

(a)	Award NR (no response): If there is nothing written at all in the answer space or If there is only a comment which does not in any way relate to the question being asked (e.g. 'can't do' or 'don't know') or If there is only a mark which isn't an attempt at the question (e.g. a dash, a question mark).
(b)	Award 0: If there is any attempt that earns no credit. This could, for example, include the candidate copying all or some of the question, or any working that does not earn any marks, whether crossed out or not.

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Extra material: Candidates need to answer the questions in such a way as to demonstrate that they have understood the text. The mark scheme cannot cover all eventualities so where specific instructions are not provided, the examiner must check the text to ensure that the correct elements which would attract the mark are not contradicted or distorted by any extra material. The following general rules should be applied:

(a)	Extra material, mentioned in the mark scheme, which reinforces the correct answer or in itself constitutes an alternative correct answer:	This is acceptable and is not penalised.
(b)	Extra material which constitutes an alternative answer, but which is not explicitly mentioned in the mark scheme :	The examiner needs to decide, by consulting the transcript/text and the Team Leader if necessary, whether the alternative answer constitutes: (i) an alternative <u>correct</u> answer, in which case this falls into category (a) and the answer should be rewarded, or (ii) an answer which on its own would be rejected, in which case this falls into category (c) and the answer should be rejected.
(c)	Extra material which constitutes an alternative answer specifically rejected in the mark scheme:	This puts the examiner in the position of having to ‘choose’ which the intended answer is. The examiner cannot therefore be sure what the candidate has understood and the mark cannot be awarded.
(d)	Extra material which distorts or contradicts the correct answer:	This affects communication. The examiner cannot be sure what the candidate has understood and therefore the mark cannot be awarded.
(e)	Extra material introduced by the candidate and which does not feature in the original text:	This affects communication. The examiner cannot be sure what the candidate has understood and therefore the mark cannot be awarded. It can sometimes be difficult to draw the line between what is a deduction made by an able candidate on the basis of what they have read and pure guesswork. Therefore, where a particular answer is not covered by the mark scheme, the examiner should consult the Team Leader.

4 Detailed Mark Scheme**QUESTIONS 1–5**

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
1	D	1	
2	A	1	
3	C	1	
4	A	1	
5	B	1	

QUESTION 6

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
6(a)	D	1	
6(b)	A	1	
6(c)	E	1	
6(d)	B	1	

Question 7

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
7(a)	A	1	
7(b)	C	1	
7(c)	D	1	

Question 8

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
8(a)	(在)飞机上	1	Reject: (中国的)飞机
8(b)	云南	1	Reject long lifting: 我在云南的夏令营过得非常开心, 这里的空气特别好, 气候不冷也不热。
8(c)	不冷也不热	1	Reject: 特别好 Reject long lifting: 我在云南的夏令营过得非常开心, 这里的空气特别好, 气候不冷也不热。
8(d)	他们来自不同的国家	1	Reject: 来自不同的国家
8(e)	练习唱歌	1	Accept: 练歌
	去小吃店	1	Reject: 唱歌 Reject: 小吃店
8(f)	土豆饼	1	Reject: 土豆/豆饼
8(g)	(一个有名的)花园	1	

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
8(h)	夏令营结束(以)后	1	Accept: 夏令营结束 Reject: 营结束(以)后

Question 9

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
9(a)	C	1	
9(b)	B	1	
9(c)	A	1	
9(d)	D	1	
9(e)	C	1	

Question 10

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
10(a)	C	1	
10(b)	D	1	
10(c)	B	1	
10(d)	A	1	
10(e)	C	1	

Question 11

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
Before marking Question 11 , read the section <i>Additional Guidance</i> .			
11(a)	(从) 出生(的时候)	1	Reject: (从) 出生就 Reject long lifting: 陆思从出生就跟很多人不一样, 不能走路, 但是他的的大脑发育正常。
11(b)	不能走路	1	Reject: 不能走路, 但是他的的大脑发育正常。 Reject long lifting: 陆思从出生就跟很多人不一样, 不能走路, 但是他的的大脑发育正常。
11(c)	1. 努力学习	1	1 Reject: 努力学习是唯一的办法/学习
	2. (因为) 没有别的选择	1	2 Accept: (因为努力学习) 是唯一的办法/想将来生活得好 Reject: 唯一的办法/将来生活得好
11(d)	小朋友到家里(和他)一起玩	1	Reject: 小朋友到家里(玩)
11(e)	(有些学校) 怕麻烦	1	Reject: 有些学校怕麻烦, 不愿收他, 但最终他还是进了校门。
11(f)	很容易	1	Accept: 他很容易就能学会。
11(g)	(会) 碰见(很多) 问题	1	Accept: 没办法解决问题 Reject: 很多问题/没办法解决
11(h)	两年	1	