



Pearson

Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2017

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE
In Chinese (4CN0)
Paper 1: Listening

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Publications Code 4CNO_01_1706_ER

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Once again it was pleasing to see that candidates were very well prepared for the examination and demonstrated very competent listening skills.

The first three questions (Question 1, hobbies, Question 2, places to go and Question C3, jobs) did not cause candidates any particular difficulties.

On question 4 the candidates needed to read Chinese characters in order to respond, and this caused some of the candidates some difficulties. For example, they found it difficult to match up the 'one week' they heard with the characters for 'seven days' which was on the exam paper.

On question 5, (ii) was possibly the hardest, with some candidates seemingly unaware of the vocabulary for the different places depicted in the pictures. (vi) was also slightly tricky, with some candidates missing the correct answer 'ticket', as they had heard the easier vocabulary item 'tennis.'

Question 6 was in discrete sentences whereas question 7 was in longer, continuous prose: it is important that candidates are familiarized with both kinds of utterances as well as dialogue when they are practicing their listening skills. Question 6 posed no particular problems for candidates, whereas in question 7 again some of the weaker candidates struggled to choose the correct characters in (ii). A surprising number of candidates did not know the word for 'ice cream' in (iii).

Question 8 was generally well answered.

On question 9, parts (v) and (vi) proved the hardest. For (v), candidates often chose the incorrect answer 'It's free', presumably because they had come across similar answers when practicing past papers.

Question 10 always proves the hardest as it requires candidates to write their answers in characters. Candidates need to practice this skill in class with their teachers, as it is not easy. For example, for (i), some candidates had heard and understood that the required number was 2, but wrote 二 instead of 两. (iv) Was poorly tackled, possibly because the answer was rather unexpected from the candidate's point of view. Again for (vi), many candidates were able to answer the first half 'to go to Africa' but few were able to give the full answer including 'to see the animals.' Please encourage candidates to give full answers as much as they can.

Grade boundaries

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