Cambridge IGCSE™

MANDARIN CHINESE	**0547/41**
Paper 4 Writing	**May/June 2021**
MARK SCHEME	
Maximum Mark: 45	

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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This document consists of **20** printed pages.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1: Marks must be awarded in line with: • the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question • the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question • the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.
GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2: Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).
GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3: Marks must be awarded **positively**: • marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate • marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do • marks are not deducted for errors • marks are not deducted for omissions • answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.
GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4: Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Both traditional and simplified characters are accepted and should be marked in the same way.

Question	Answer	Marks

Question 1

Candidates are required to list 5 items in Chinese. Read all of the items that the candidate has listed and award marks as follows:

- **Select the most correct items up to a maximum of 5.**
- **Award 1 mark for each correct item up to a maximum of 5.**
- **Stop ticking once 5 items have been rewarded.**
- **On Question 1, award marks for items wherever the candidate has written them.**
- **If the candidate offers more than one word per line, award a mark for each acceptable item.**
- **Put a tick next to the correct answer, and a cross next to the incorrect answer.**

Generic mark scheme for Question 1

- Mark for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies, provided the message is clear.
- Do not award marks to words written in pinyin and English.
- If you suspect a word is used in another region e.g. 手信,蔬果， please check with TLs or PE or award BOD
- Miswritten characters:
  (a) Look-alike test: award the mark when the character the candidate has written looks like the correct answer e.g. strokes missing or added, but character still recognisable. However, when the miswritten character creates a new character with a different meaning, the mark cannot be awarded.
  (b) If a prefix or suffix is missing, or a modifier word is miswritten, award a mark if meaning is still communicated, e.g. 铅笔: if a candidate has only written "铅bi", it does not mean a thing and a mark shouldn't be awarded. If a candidate has written "qian笔"which contains the main meaning of the word "pen", the mark should be awarded.
  (c) If the mis-formed characters create a different meaning, e.g. 掎子、米反、卓子， no mark will be awarded

Detailed Mark Scheme

Section 1 Question 1

Question	Answer	Marks
1	请用中文写出你在过年时可能准备的五种东西。 **Make a list in Chinese of 5 things you might need for a Chinese New Year celebration.** **Session specific instructions for Question 1:** Anything you might see in a department store, • If there are five clearly acceptable items，e.g. food & drink, clothes, electronic products etc. award marks • If candidates list a single item with different descriptive word/adjectives, a maximum of 2 marks can be awarded, e.g. 书，大学的书，英文书，award 2 marks • If more than 5 words have been written, award the 5 correct ones even outside of the space provided • If words are directly copied from the question e.g. 东西，蛋糕，no mark will be awarded • If there are more than two characters in a word, and the meaning is clearly communicated, we can tolerant the wrong characters, e.g.可口可了（乐），巧（功）克力 The following are examples. Accept anywhere a candidate might enjoy going to at the weekend. **ACCEPT** Any types of food, and drinks, or any decorations. Such as: 鱼，饺子，汽水，春联，etc. 21.6 **Tolerant (BOD)** 音乐 **REFUSE** 酉、朋友、香焦、平果、面句、果斗、新依	**5**

Section 1 Question 2

Question	Answer	Marks
	Candidates are required to answer the question. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows: • **Communication: award a mark out of 10, according to the instructions in 2.1.** • **Language: award a mark out of 5, according to the instructions in 2.2.**	

Question	Answer	Marks
	2.1: Award a mark out of 10 for Communication	
	(i) Place the appropriate 'numbered' tick as close as possible to each relevant communication point.	
	(ii) Award ticks flexibly across the tasks for each piece of relevant information conveyed, up to a maximum of 10 ticks. HOWEVER, each of the 5 tasks must be covered to get the 10 communication marks:	
	(iii) If 1 of the tasks is missing, the maximum communication mark is 9.	
	(iv) If 2 of the tasks are missing, the maximum communication mark is 8 (and so on).	
	(v) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 10 for Communication.	

	(vi) For COMMUNICATION be tolerant of timeframes and minor character errors, provided the characters written are clear enough to be understood
	  • for language, use 'rules' in Question 1: miswritten characters, etc.
	  • incorrect word order will not usually compromise communication.	

	(vii) LISTS = a maximum of 3 marks for communication. LISTS最多给三分。在学校我最喜欢看书、听音乐、上网和画画 (3 marks)	
	(viii) Up to 5 further marks available for additional details	
	(ix) Do not penalise factual errors.	
	(xi) What the candidate writes may not follow the order of the tasks on the question paper – this is fine.	
	(xii) Candidates are allowed to use English for proper nouns if they are not in the core minimum vocab list.	
	Total marks for Communication: 10	

Question	Answer	Marks
2	<u>Use of pinyin</u> If a candidate uses pinyin in their answer, you should read the work as if the pinyin words were not there – they do not count towards the Communication mark. If the Communication requirements are still fulfilled, discounting the pinyin, the mark can be awarded. See 2.2 page 10 for language marks. e.g. Question: 在学校你最喜欢做什么？ Answer 1:在学校我最喜欢喝kafei。 (pinyin is used for the word 'kafei'. This is a key word in the sentence, and relates directly to the question. Therefore, no Communication mark can be awarded.) Answer 2: 在学校我最喜欢玩电脑youxi。 (pinyin is used for the word 'youxi'. Ignoring this word in the sentence would not affect comprehension – it is not a key word in the sentence. The Communication mark can be awarded here.) **How to award marks for extra details:** An extra detail is defined as any extra detail which is related in some way to any one of the five tasks. Example: 我有三个老师。他们是我爸爸、妈妈和姐姐。 4 Communication marks are awarded for this response. In the above example: • Award 1 tick for我有三个老师as this is a statement which addresses the requirements of task 2 • Award 3 ticks for他们是我爸爸、妈妈和姐姐as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task 2	

Question	Answer	Marks
2	请写一写你的学校： **Write about your school. Say:**	**10**

Tick	Accept
✓1	Task: 你的学校在哪个国家； What country your school is in Present time-frame, any countries
✓2	Task: 你有几位老师； How many teachers you have Present time-frame
✓3	Task: 校园里有什么； What (things) there are on the campus; Present time-frame
✓4	Task: 在学校你最喜欢做什么； What you most like to do at school; Present time-frame
✓5	Task: 你今年什么时候放暑假。 When you are going to have summer holiday this year Present time-frame

Question	Answer	Marks
	2.2: Award a mark out of 5 for Language	

Generic mark scheme for Language (Question 2):

If some characters are written incorrectly without hindering communication, candidates should not be penalised in the Language mark.

- Award a mark out of 5 for Language according to the Grade descriptors in the table below (see *Note on using mark schemes with Grade descriptors* (last page of mark scheme)):

Grade descriptors for Language (Question 2)

5	Highly accurate in the use of simpler structures, with occasional minor slips.
4	Accurate in the use of simpler structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips.
3	Generally accurate, but with increased incidence of more serious errors.
2	Substantially inaccurate, despite several examples of accurate usage.
1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.
0	No examples of accurate usage

[Total marks for Language: 5]

*Consider the whole answer when awarding mark for Language

[Total for Question 2: 15 marks]

Question	Answer	Marks
	Very short answers If a response is under 40 characters long, a maximum of 4 marks for Language can be awarded. Pinyin The volume of pinyin in the answer should be considered when awarding the Language mark. If pinyin is used extensively, it is no longer genuinely a piece of Chinese writing. Occasional use of pinyin will not affect marking for Language, but for essays written predominantly in pinyin (i.e. more pinyin than characters) this must be taken into account in the Language mark. **Total for Communication: 10 marks** **Total for Language: 5 marks** **Total for Question 2: 15 marks**	

Section 2 Question 3

Question	Answer	Marks

Candidates answer 1 question from a choice of 3. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows:
• **Communication: award a mark out of 5, according to the instructions in 3.1.**
• **Language:**
  – **award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters, according to the instructions in 3.2.**
  – **award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures, according to the instructions in 3.3.**
  – **award an Impressions mark out of 5 according to the instructions in 3.4**
 	
3.1: Award a mark out of 5 for Communication
Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 3):
 	
(i)   There are 5 relevant communication points per question, each worth a maximum of 1 mark.
 	
(ii) For each relevant communication point, use the appropriate numbered tick and place 1 of these ticks as close as possible to each relevant communication point
 	
(iii) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 5 for Communication
 	
                                                Total marks for Communication: 5	

Section 2 Question 3

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	你最近参观了一个博物馆。请给奶奶写一封信。信里说说：	**5**

You recently visited a museum. Please write a letter to your grandma and say:

Tick	Accept
✓1	Task: 你跟谁一起参观了博物馆； Who you went to the museum with; Past time-frame
✓2	Task: 你们怎么去的博物馆； How you got to the museum; Past time-frame
✓3	Task: 你觉得这个博物馆怎么样； What did you think of the museum; Opinion
✓4	Task: 你认为参观博物馆有什么好处； What you think the benefits are of visiting museums; Justification
✓5	Task: 你打算什么时候再去博物馆。 When you plan to go to a museum again. Future time-frame

Question	Answer	Marks
3(b)	学校报社想了解一下大家对家庭作业的看法。请给报社写一篇文章，说一说： **'School Newspaper' wants to know the students' views on homework. Please write an article saying:**	**5**

Tick	Accept
✓1	Task: 你从几年级开始在这里上学； In which grade did you join the school; Past time-frame
✓2	Task: 你昨天做了多长时间作业； How much time you spent on homework yesterday; Past time-frame
✓3	Task: 你今天有什么作业； What homework you have today; Present time-frame
✓4	Task: 上网做作业有什么好处； What the benefits are of doing homework online; Opinion
✓5	Task: 你觉得周末应该做作业吗；为什么。 Whether you think (students) should do homework at weekends and why. Present time-frame, justification

Question	Answer	Marks
3(c)	去年你在国外旅行的时候，有个人给你拍了一张照片。请说说： When you were travelling abroad last year, somebody took a photo of you. Say <table><tr><th>Tick</th><th>Accept</th></tr><tr><td>✓1</td><td>Task: 你在哪个国家旅行； Which country were you travelling in; Past time-frame</td></tr><tr><td>✓2</td><td>Task: 那个人是谁； Who that person was; Past time-frame</td></tr><tr><td>✓3</td><td>Task: 他/她为什么给你拍照； Why he/she took a picture of you Reason</td></tr><tr><td>✓4</td><td>Task: 你觉得他/她怎么样； What did you think of him/her; Opinion</td></tr><tr><td>✓5</td><td>Task: 后来发生了什么事。 What happened afterwards. Past time-frame</td></tr></table>	

Section 2   Question 3(c)

Question	Answer	Marks
3.2 – award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters ***Generic mark scheme for Accuracy of Characters (Question 3):*** • Award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters according to the Grade descriptors in the table below: **Grade descriptors for Accuracy of Characters (Question 3)**		

5	Highly accurate, with a wide range of characters including some more difficult or unusual ones correctly written, with occasional minor slips.	
4	A good range of characters attempted with easy and moderately easy characters correctly written.	
3	Limited range, but with most easy characters correctly written (or a wide range with a lot of errors).	
2	A number of examples of easy characters correctly written.	
1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of correctly written characters.	
0	No examples of correctly written characters.	

	Total marks for Accuracy of Characters: 5

Question	Answer	Marks
	3.3 – award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures ***Generic mark scheme for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures (Question 3):*** • Award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures according to the Grade descriptors in the table below: **Grade descriptors for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures (Question 3)**	

10/9	Highly accurate including use of more complex structures, but with occasional minor slips.
8/7	A little more ambitious than the 5/6 band. Accurate in the use of simple structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips.
6/5	Limited in range, but displays some control of simple structures.
4/3	Inconsistent, but a number of examples of accurate usage.
2/1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.
0	No examples of accurate usage.

Total marks for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures: 10

Question	Answer	Marks
	How to deal with short essays If the candidate has written less than half the suggested number of characters (75 or less), a maximum of 3 marks can be awarded for Accuracy of Characters and 5 marks for Grammar/Structures. An essay of 75–100 characters can be awarded a maximum of 4 marks for Accuracy of characters and 7 for Grammar/Structures. For a letter, the addressee and ending greeting are not included in the word count. Pinyin The volume of pinyin in the answer should be considered when awarding the Language mark. If pinyin is used extensively, it is no longer genuinely a piece of Chinese writing. Occasional use of pinyin will not affect marking for Language, but for essays written predominantly in pinyin (i.e. more pinyin than characters) this must be taken into account in the Language mark.	

Question	Answer	Marks

3.4 – award a mark out of 5 for Impression

Award a mark out of 5 for Impression according to the conversion table below.

Conversion Table for Impression (Question 3)

Mark out of 15 (for Accuracy of Language)	Pro rata (General Impression) Max 5
15	5
14	5
13	4
12	4
11	4
10	3
9	3
8	2
7	2
6	2
5	1
4	1
3	1
2	0
1	0
0	0

Total mark for Impression: 5
Total for Question 3: 25 marks

Note on using mark schemes with Grade descriptors

It is important that you award marks positively. In order to ensure that you reward achievement rather than penalise failure or omissions, you should start at the bottom of the mark scheme and work upwards through the descriptors when awarding marks.

You should adopt a 'best fit' approach. You must select the set of descriptors provided in the mark scheme that most closely describes the quality of the work being marked. As you work upwards through the mark scheme, you will eventually arrive at a set of descriptors that fits the candidate's performance. When you reach this point, you should always then check the descriptors in the band above to confirm whether or not there is just enough evidence to award a mark in the higher band.

For example, when marking Question 3 you may find that a candidate uses a variety of relevant vocabulary but has varied success with more complex structures. In such cases, you will need to award a mark that takes into account both the strengths and weaknesses of the piece of work.

To select the most appropriate mark within each set of descriptors, use the following guidance:

- If most of the descriptors fit the piece (and after you have considered the band above), award the top mark in the band.
- If there is just enough evidence (and you had perhaps been considering the band below), award the lowest mark in the band.

Note on irrelevant material in Question 3

In the case of a deliberately evasive answer which consists entirely of irrelevant material exploited in defiance of the rubric, a score of 0 is given. These are extremely rare.

A genuine attempt to answer the question which fails due to a misunderstanding of the rubric will normally lose Communication marks but will score for Language. You should consult your Team Leader.