

# Chinese

2017 Senior External Examination — Subject notice 1

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## Information about the 2017 examination

The examination will be based on the *Chinese Senior External Syllabus 2007 (amended 2012)*. It will consist of two components.

### Oral component

- **Speaking**
  - prepared speech between 2 and 3 minutes in length
  - followed by a conversation of at least 3 minutes.

Each candidate's oral component will be individually assessed by a marker either in person or by telephone. The prepared speech topic will be sent to candidates in mid-September.

### Written component

- **Reading** — 10 minutes perusal/planning time, 1 hour 30 minutes working time
- **Writing** — 10 minutes perusal/planning time, 1 hour 30 minutes working time
- **Listening** — 1 hour working time.

Candidates are expected to be familiar with simplified characters, as the characters used for recognition are the simplified forms officially adopted by the government of the People's Republic of China. While the use of simplified characters is preferred in responses, candidates may use full-form (traditional) characters without penalty. The character style selected (either simplified or traditional) should be demonstrated consistently in all responses.

The written component is timetabled for a different day and may be conducted at a different examination centre from the oral component.

### Dictionaries

Dictionaries are not allowed in the Chinese examination.

### Level of achievement

Each candidate's level of achievement will be determined by applying the syllabus standards to an overall assessment of responses to the Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking tasks.

Candidates must be awarded a grade in each of the four skills to obtain a level of achievement.

### Enquiries

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