

Chinese

2019 Senior External Examination — Subject notice 1

Information about the 2019 examination

The examination will be based on the *Chinese Senior External Syllabus 2007 (amended 2012)*.

It will consist of an oral examination (that will assess speaking skills) and a written examination (that will assess listening, reading and writing skills).

Candidates must sit both examination components. No alternative arrangements will be made if a candidate fails to attend a scheduled examination for any reason. There are no opportunities to resit examinations. No level of achievement can be awarded unless the candidate sits all examinations.

Oral examination

The oral examination will be conducted on a different day to the written component. Details of the time, date and venue will be emailed by the end of September.

The oral examination is designed primarily to assess a candidate's knowledge and skill in using spoken Chinese. It has two sections:

- Section 1: Prepared speech
- Section 2: Conversation.

The conversation and the discussion may be supported by objects such as photographs, diagrams, pictures and maps.

Section 1: Prepared speech

The oral examination will begin with the candidate delivering a prepared speech of at least 2–3 minutes in length.

Candidates may take a palm card (100 mm x 100 mm) into the examination room. Candidates write their name and candidate number on the palm card, and list **only the main points of their speech**. Candidates will be required to give the palm card to the marker or supervisor at the end of the examination.

The prepared speech topic will be sent to candidates in September.

Section 2: Conversation

Section 2 of the oral examination will be a general conversation between the candidate and the marker.

The conversation will be about the candidate's personal world, e.g. school and home life, family and friends, interests and aspirations. (See Section 6.2.3 of the syllabus for information on the prescribed themes and topics.)

The conversation will last for approximately 3 minutes.

Notes and cue cards are not permitted.

Recording evidence of learning

As a condition of candidate enrolment, the QCAA will record oral examinations to gather evidence of learning and for quality assurance purposes.

Written examination

The written examination has three sections. Detailed information on the written examination can be found in Section 8 of the syllabus.

Section 1: Listening

This section is designed primarily to assess a candidate's knowledge and skill in analysing and responding to information from spoken texts.

Section 2: Reading

This section is designed primarily to assess a candidate's knowledge and skill in analysing and responding to information from written texts.

Section 3: Writing in Chinese

This section is designed primarily to assess a candidate's ability to express ideas through the creation of original text in Chinese.

Candidates are expected to be familiar with simplified characters. These 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.

Dictionaries

Dictionaries are not allowed in the Chinese examination.

Level of achievement

Candidates' responses to questions in each paper will be judged against the two syllabus exit criteria:

- *Comprehension*
- *Conveying meaning*.

Each candidate's level of achievement will be determined by applying the syllabus standards to an overall assessment of responses across the oral and written components of the examination.

Enquiries

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