



2010 LOTE: Chinese Second Language Advanced: GA 3: Examination

Written component

GENERAL COMMENTS

In total, there were 348 students who participated in the 2010 Chinese Second Language Advanced written examination. Students demonstrated a good understanding of the general and specific aspects of the exam. However, some students still answered in the wrong language in Sections 1 and 2. The format, text features and different kinds of writing in Section 3 were handled well by most students.

It was apparent that students had practised thoroughly with different types of examination questions. Students should be aware of the importance of writing Chinese characters neatly and should ensure that they allow time at the end of the examination to proofread their work.

In Section 1, the majority of the students were able to identify important points from the texts. Students should be able to identify the key information in each question rather than writing everything they know. Students also need to check their Chinese character writing and ensure their sentences have proper grammatical structures. Students should also make effective use of the note-taking space while the texts are being played.

It was evident that most students understood the texts in Section 2. However, students are reminded that some questions require all the necessary information before full marks can be awarded. This year students were required to combine the information from two written texts. It was essential that students understood the two texts thoroughly before providing the English translation. Students should first identify the overall idea of each text and then translate each sentence accurately.

In Section 3 the most popular topic was Question 8, where students needed to provide three reasons to convince their parents to allow them to work as a volunteer in the community. Overall, the standard of writing was lower than expected and some students gave reasons that were not relevant for a voluntary worker. Some introductions were too wordy and there was no reinforcement of students' opinions in the conclusion. Students should practise writing in Chinese regularly on a variety of themes and topics as this will assist them to use the appropriate style when addressing different audiences. It is recommended that students write a plan first, decide what to write, decide on the sequence and identify the topic sentence with each major paragraph.

It is important that students plan their work carefully to allow them to complete all the answers within the allocated time.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

**Section 1 – Listening and responding
Part A – Answer in English**

Text 1

Question 1a.

Because her school won the match by only one point/Because the score was very close

Question 1b.

Because he had a geography lesson

Text 2

Question 2a.

The examination

Question 2b.

The male/student/boy



Part B – Answer in Chinese

Text 3

Question 3a.

通知的对象应该是十一年级去英国旅游的学生。

Question 3b.

他们可以坐火车去机场，父母也可以开车送他们去机场。

Section 2 – Reading, responding and translating

Part A – Answer in English

Text 4

Question 4a.

To make a better living, many young parents work and study from morning until night. Their children are looked after by others all day and the children feel devastated. Children should not be kept apart from their parents for a long time or it will affect children's growth.

Question 4b.

It is suggested that parents stay next their children while the children do their homework. Parents can not only be on intimate terms with their children but can try to solve problems as soon as they arise.

Question 4c.

They swim and play ball games together during the day. In the evening they take a stroll and chat to each other in the moonlight, or sleep under the star-decorated sky. It can create a sense of beauty for the children who will be overwhelmed with enjoyment.

Question 4d.

How to be good parents

Part A – Answer in Chinese

Text 5

Question 5

马丽:

你好。我想请你去看学校的晚会，时间是一月二十七日（下星期三）晚上七点，地点是校音乐大教室，节目有合唱、喜剧，还有中国流行音乐。不过演出时不能照相。

这次我请客，所以你不用考虑门票。如果去，二十七号下午六点我开车去你家接你。谢谢。

张平

一月二十号

Part C – Translation

Question 6

Over 100 years ago, people believed that Australia was a long way away from other countries as it took about one and half months to travel here by ship from England. Trades in Australia were extremely poor. The people could not listen to popular music, nor did they have any interesting activities. The population in Melbourne was only 200 000 then. Nowadays Melbourne is a multi-cultural city. It is four times as big as Shanghai, with a population of over 3.8 million. Skyscrapers and parks can be found everywhere and people go out often in their free time. The people of Melbourne enjoy participating in sports or going to concerts but also enjoy the diversity of cuisine in different restaurants. Today's Melbourne has become a famous city that many foreigners are eager to visit.



Question 7

The Great Wall of China is universally regarded as a miracle. Its uniqueness is demonstrated not only by its grand scale but also the length of time it took to construct. People will always remember their visit to the Great Wall. It has experienced the turbulence, harshness and dramatic events throughout the past two thousand years. The Great Wall is not only a historic picture painted on the earth but the symbol of civilization as well.

Section 3 – Writing in Chinese

Question 8

Content

- three reasons related to voluntary work used to try and convince parents
- relevance, breadth and depth of content

Format

- Chinese newspaper format: 《中文晚报》及日期、题目、作者
- general introduction and conclusion
- appropriate structure and sequence
- topic sentence for each major paragraph
- good control of the length

Vocabulary and grammar

- accuracy, range and appropriateness of vocabulary and grammar

Question 9

Content

- the advantages and disadvantages of being a professional tennis player
- relevance, breadth and depth of content

Format

- Chinese format: 题目、作者
- general introduction and conclusion
- appropriate structure and sequence
- topic sentence for each major paragraph
- good control of the length

Vocabulary and Grammar

- accuracy, range and appropriateness of vocabulary and grammar

Question 10

Content

- three aspects related to China such as history, geography, current issues, culture, education, tourism, transport, shopping and Chinese food
- relevance, breadth and depth of content

Format

- Chinese speech format: 同学们、你们好、介绍主题、我说完了，谢谢
- general introduction and conclusion
- appropriate structure and sequence
- topic sentence for each major paragraph
- good control of the length

Vocabulary and grammar

- accuracy, range and appropriateness of vocabulary and grammar



Question 11 (写信希望住北京笔友家学汉语。)

Content

- range of reasons to stay as a Chinese language learner at your pen pal's home
- relevance, breadth and depth of content

Format

- Chinese letter format: 笔友名、你好、祝—快乐、林方、日期
- general introduction and conclusion
- appropriate structure and sequence
- topic sentence for each major paragraph
- good control of the length

Vocabulary and grammar

- accuracy, range and appropriateness of vocabulary and grammar

Question 12 (写故事登陆火星)

Content

- introduction of the story's time, location and characters
- the story ends at its climax
- relevance, breadth and depth of content

Format

- Chinese newspaper format: 题目、作者
- general introduction and conclusion
- appropriate structure and sequence
- good control of the length

Vocabulary and grammar

- accuracy, range and appropriateness of vocabulary and grammar