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MANDARIN CHINESE (FOREIGN LANGUAGE)	**0547/42**
Paper 4 Writing	**May/June 2016**
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 will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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This document consists of **15** printed pages.

1 General Marking Notes

1.2 Crossing out:

(a) If a candidate changes his/her mind over an answer and crosses out an attempt, award a mark if the **final** attempt is correct.

(b) If a candidate crosses out an answer <u>to a whole question</u> but makes no second attempt at it, mark the crossed out work.

1.3 For Questions 2 and 3, if the candidate has written an answer in the space provided for that purpose, you should ignore anything written anywhere else, unless:

(i) there is an indication from the candidate that other material should be considered

(ii) the candidate has continued their answer outside the space provided

(iii) there is no answer in the space provided

1.4 Annotation used in the Mark Scheme and/or Marking:

(a) tc = 'tout court' and means that on its own the material is not sufficient to score the mark.

(b) BOD = Benefit of the Doubt and is used to indicate material considered by the Examiner and judged to be more correct than incorrect: the benefit of the doubt is given to the candidate and the mark is awarded.

1.5 No response and '0' marks

Award NR (No Response):
- If there is nothing written at all in the answer space or
- If there is only a comment which does not in any way relate to the question being asked (e.g. 'can't do' or 'don't know') or
- If there is only a mark which isn't an attempt at the question (e.g. a dash, a question mark).

Award 0:
- If there is any attempt that earns no credit. This could, for example, include the candidate copying all or some of the question, or any working that does not earn any marks, whether crossed out or not.

1.6 Optional questions: you must mark all questions attempted by the candidate. Where a question has not been attempted then a NR must be entered. (For Question 3 only, after marking the question(s) the candidate has answered, NR is populated automatically when you click on 'Complete'.) Where the candidate attempts more than one of the alternatives in Question 3, scoris will automatically only aggregate the candidate's best result.

2 Detailed Mark Scheme

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

SECTION 1

Question 1

> Candidates are required to list 5 items in Chinese. Read all the items 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**

Generic mark scheme for Question 1

- <u>Mark for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies, provided the message is clear</u>
- Do not award marks to words written in pinyin
- 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. 面条: if a candidate has only written条, it does not mean anything and a mark shouldn't be awarded. If a candidate has written面 which contains the main meaning of the word *noodle*, the mark should be awarded.
  (c) If the mis-formed characters create a different meaning, e.g. 风影，no mark will be awarded

Session specific instructions for Question 1: *Make a list in Chinese of 5 items you might see at the seaside.* (请用中文写出在海边可能看到的五种东西。)

- If there are five clearly acceptable items, award marks wherever these are in the list. This approach may allow questionable versions to be ignored.
- **Accept a maximum of 2 family members, e.g. 爸爸、妈妈、姐姐.**
- **Accept a maximum of 2 'people' with the same character in the category, e.g. 法国人，英国人，中国人 .**
- If candidates list a single item with *different descriptive word/adjectives, a maximum of 2 marks can be awarded, e.g. 蓝船、大船、小船award 2 marks*
- Ignore measure words and verbs.
- accept verb-object construction words, e.g. 下雨，刮风，吃饭， 唱歌，but not just吃or 唱
- 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. 海边，东西，no mark will be awarded

The following are examples. Accept anything the candidate might see at the seaside.

ACCEPT		REFUSE
餐馆		木
商店		森
天		日
云		
鸟		
人		
孩子		
鱼		
山		
树		
石		
沙		
水		
海		
林		
家		

[Total for Question 1: 5 marks]

Question 2

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**

2.1: award a mark out of 10 for Communication

Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 2)

(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 time-frames 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。
- 我家有四口人(1 mark)。我家有妈妈、爸爸、哥哥和我(3 marks)。My family has 4 people. My family has mum, dad, elder brother and me. = 4 marks
- 我妈妈、爸爸、爷爷、奶奶和哥哥上班。My mum, dad, grandpa, grandma and elder brother go to work. = 3 marks
- If there is more than one list in the answer, maximum award 3 marks.

(viii) **Only reward each piece of information once**, e.g.爸爸喜欢他的工作因为他上班。 他上班cannot score both for task (b) and (c)

(ix) **If there are 2 or more pieces of information in one sentence to answer one bullet point, award 1 mark**爸爸在大学工作了二十多年。**If they are in different clauses, award one mark for each clause.**爸爸在大学工作，他工作了二十多年 **(2 marks)**

(x) Up to 5 further marks available for additional details for **(a)**, **(b)**, **(c)**, or **(d)**

(xi) Do not penalise factual errors

(xii) What the candidate writes may not follow the order of the tasks on the question paper – this is fine

[Total marks for Communication: 10]

Use of pinyin
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.

e.g. Question: 你要去买什么

Answer 1: 我去买 shu. (pinyin is used for the word 'shu'. This is a key word in the sentence, and relates directly to the question. Therefore, no Communication mark can be awarded.)
Answer 2: 我去买笔 zi. (pinyin is used for the word 'zi'. 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 four tasks.

Example: 我将来想做老师。老师很好。经常有假期。
(3 Communication marks are awarded for this response)

In the above example:

- Award 1 tick for我将来想做老师as this is a generic statement which addresses the requirements of task (d)
- Award 1 tick for老师很好as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task (d)
- Award 1 tick for经常有假期as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task (d)

Session specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 2): *Write about your family.*
(*请写一写你的家人*)

Tick	Accept	Refuse
1	你家有几口人： (How many people are there in your family?) **REWARD**: mention the number of people in candidate's family.	
2	你家谁上班； (Who in your family goes to work?) **REWARD**: any family members mentioned.	
3	他/她喜欢他/她的工作吗， (Does he/she like her job?) **REWARD:** yes/no/I don't know	
4	为什么；（Why?) **REWARD :** any detail relating to why the family member likes their job, e.g. 因为学生对她很好。	
5	你将来想做什么工作。 (What job would you like to do in the future?) • **candidates must reference a future time frame.** This can be done using a time word e.g. 长大以后 or a verbal marker e.g. 我想当/做xx。 **REWARD** any job given	

Session specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 2): *Write about your family.*
(*请写一写你的家人*)

2.2: award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of 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]

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*Consider the whole answer when awarding mark for Language

[Total for Question 2: 15 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.

SECTION 2

Question 3

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 Impression 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]

Session specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 3):

Question 3(a): letter to your pen pal about your school sports day

Tick	Accept	Mark
1	**On what day was the sports day?** Allow any time given. Insist on past time-frame. A past time-frame word is needed, e.g.昨天 *Note: take into account the presence (or omission) of the verbal marker 了when awarding the mark for Accuracy of Grammar. This is not needed for the communication mark.* 我昨天参加（了）运动会（了）。	**[1]**
2	**Which events did you take part in?** Allow any sport / event / games Insist on past time-frame.	**[1]**
3	**你觉得这次运动会怎么样；How do you feel about this sports day?** Any opinion	**[1]**
4	**Do you think it is important to have sports day? Why?** **ACCEPT:** Yes / No / Not sure **REWARD:** any reason given	**[1]**
5	**Fifth communication mark** to be awarded flexibly for extra detail relating to any of the bullet points.	**[1]**

Question 3(b): article to your secondary school magazine about your partner school in Africa

Tick	Accept	Mark
1	**What exchange activities have you done?** Any activities, past time frame	**[1]**
2	什么时候做的交流活动；**When did you have the exchange?** Insist on past time frame.	**[1]**
3	**What do you think about this kind of exchange activity?** Expect opinions	**[1]**
4	**Would you like to go to the school in Africa? Why?** **ACCEPT:** Yes / No / Not sure **REWARD:** any reason given	**[1]**
5	**Fifth communication mark** to be awarded flexibly for extra detail relating to any of the bullet points	**[1]**

Question 3(c): you and your friend were reading in the library when you heard some music playing. (narrative)

Tick	Accept	Mark
1	**Where was the music coming from?** Allow any place Insist on past time frame	**[1]**
2	**Why was there music playing?** Allow any reason / description of circumstances / events	**[1]**
3	**你还能看书吗，为什么；Were you able to read books? Why?** **ACCEPT:** Yes / No Reward any reason given	**[1]**
4	**What happened next?** Allow any consequence / sequence of events expressed in past time-frame, verbal markers & time words needed	**[1]**
5	**Appropriate elaboration of one of the bullet points** Additional communication mark awarded flexibly for extra detail relating to any of the first four bullet points in the question.	**[1]**

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]

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]

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.

In 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.

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, you should use the following guidance:

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

Note on irrelevant material

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.