# Cambridge IGCSE

**Cambridge International Examinations**
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

| | |
|---|---|
| **MANDARIN CHINESE** | **0547/41** |
| Paper 4  Writing | **May/June 2017** |
| 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.

Cambridge is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2017 series for most Cambridge IGCSE®, Cambridge International A and AS Level and Cambridge Pre-U components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **14** printed pages.

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

## SECTION 1

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Candidates are required to list 5 items in Chinese. Read all the items the candidate has listed and award marks as follows:<br><br>**Select the most correct items up to a maximum of 5**<br>**Award 1 mark for each correct item up to a maximum of 5**<br>**Stop ticking once 5 items have been rewarded**<br>**On Question 1 award marks for items wherever the candidate has written them**<br>**If the candidate offers more than one word per line, award a mark for each acceptable item** | |
| | ***Generic mark scheme for Question 1***<br><br><u>Mark for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies, provided the message is clear</u><br>Do not award marks to words written in pinyin<br>Miswritten characters:<br><br>**(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.<br>**(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.<br>**(c)** If the mis-formed characters create a different meaning, e.g. 尺字，no mark will be awarded | |
| | ***Session specific instructions for Question 1:*** *Make a list in Chinese of 5 things you could use in a classroom.* (请用中文写出你在教室里可能用到的五件东西。)<br><br>If there are five clearly acceptable items, e.g. stationery, clothes, daily use items, toys, books, award marks wherever these are in the list.<br>If candidates list a single item with *different descriptive word/adjectives, a maximum of 2 marks can be awarded, e.g.* 笔、红笔、黑笔 *award 2 marks*<br>Ignore measure words and verbs.<br>If more than 5 words have been written, award the 5 correct ones even outside of the space provided<br>If words are directly copied from the question e.g. 教室，东西，书 no mark will be awarded | 5 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| | The following are examples. Accept anything the candidate might use in a classroom. | |

| ACCEPT | | REFUSE |
|---|---|---|
| 笔 | | 人 |
| 桌子 | | 老师 |
| 书桌 | | 朋友 |
| 橡皮 | | 书 |
| 铅笔 | | |
| 课本 | | |
| 书包 | | |
| 铅笔 | | |
| 尺子 | | |
| 练习本 | | |
| 家具 | | |
| 纸 | | |
| 书本 | | |
| 白板 | | |

**[Total mark for Question 1: 5]**

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | Candidates are required to answer the question. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows:<br><br>**Communication: award a mark out of 10 according to the instructions in 2.1**<br>**Language: award a mark out of 5 according to the instructions in 2.2** | |
| | <div align="center">**2.1: award a mark out of 10 for Communication**</div><br>***Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 2)***<br><br>(i) Place the appropriate 'numbered' tick as close as possible to each relevant communication point<br>(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:<br>(iii) If 1 of the tasks is missing, the maximum communication mark is 9<br>(iv) If 2 of the tasks are missing, the maximum communication mark is 8 (and so on)<br>(v) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 10 for Communication<br>(vi) For COMMUNICATION be tolerant of time-frames and minor character errors, provided the characters written are clear enough to be understood<br>    **for language, use 'rules' in Question 1**: miswritten characters, etc.<br>    **incorrect word order will not usually compromise communication**<br><br>(vii) LISTS = a maximum of 3 marks for communication. LISTS最多给三分。<br>    我一般和妈妈、爸爸、哥哥、弟弟一起去 (3 marks)。<br><br>(viii) Up to 6 further marks available for additional details<br>(ix) Do not penalise factual errors<br>(x) What the candidate writes may not follow the order of the tasks on the question paper – this is fine.<br><br><div align="right">**[Total marks for Communication: 10]**</div> | 10 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
|  | Use of pinyin<br>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.<br><br>e.g. Question: 你喜欢吃什么<br><br>Answer 1: 我喜欢吃 jiao子. (pinyin is used for the word 'jiao'. This is a key word in the sentence, and relates directly to the question. Therefore, no Communication mark can be awarded.)<br>Answer 2: 我喜欢吃面bao. (pinyin is used for the word 'bao'. 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.)<br><br>**How to award marks for extra details:**<br><br>An extra detail is defined as any extra detail which is related in some way to any one of the five tasks.<br><br>Example:　我喜欢去那里。饭店很漂亮，果汁很好喝，牛肉很好吃。<br>(3 Communication marks are awarded for this response)<br><br>In the above example:<br><br>    Award 1 tick for饭店很漂亮as this is a generic statement which addresses the requirements of task 3<br>    Award 1 tick for果汁很好喝as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task 3<br>    Award 1 tick for牛肉很好吃as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task 3 |  |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| | ***Session specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 2):*** 请写一写你最喜欢的饭店： <br> *Write about your favourite restaurant.* | |

| Tick | Accept | Refuse |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Task: 你最喜欢什么饭店；What restaurant do you like the most? <br><br> **REWARD**: any restaurant | |
| 2 | Task: 你一般和谁一起去；Who do you normally go with? <br><br> **REWARD:** any person | |
| 3 | Task: 你为什么喜欢去那里；Why do you like to go there? <br><br> **REWARD:** any reason | |
| 4 | 你下次打算什么时候去; When do you plan to go next time? <br><br> **REWARD :** future time frame or present tense which implies future tense | |
| 5 | **REWARD :** additional information related to any of the bullet points | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| | **2.2: award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Language** | **5** |
| | **Generic mark scheme for Language (Question 2):**<br>If some characters are written incorrectly without hindering communication, candidates should not be penalised in the Language mark.<br><br>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)):<br><br>**Grade descriptors for Language (Question 2)**<br><br>| 5 | Highly accurate in the use of simpler structures, with occasional minor slips. |<br>| 4 | Accurate in the use of simpler structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips. |<br>| 3 | Generally accurate, but with increased incidence of more serious errors. |<br>| 2 | Substantially inaccurate, despite several examples of accurate usage. |<br>| 1 | Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage. |<br>| 0 | No examples of accurate usage |<br><br>**[Total marks for Language: 5]**<br><br>*Consider the whole answer when awarding mark for language<br><br>**[Total for Question 2: 15 marks]** | |
| | <u>Very short answers</u><br>If a response is under 40 characters long, a maximum of 4 marks for Language can be awarded.<br><br><u>Pinyin</u><br><br>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.<br><br>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 | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | Candidates answer 1 question from a choice of 3. Read the whole answer and award marks, as follows:<br><br>**Communication: award a mark out of 5 according to the instructions in 3.1**<br>**Language:**<br>    **award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters according to the instructions in 3.2**<br>    **award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures according to the instructions in 3.3**<br>    **award an Impression mark out of 5 according to the instructions in 3.4** | |
| | <u>**3.1 – award a mark out of 5 for Communication**</u><br><br>*Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 3):*<br><br>(i)   There are 5 relevant communication points per question, each worth a maximum of 1 mark.<br><br>(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<br><br>(iii) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 5 for Communication<br><br>                                              **[Total marks for Communication: 5]** | **5** |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| 3(a) | ***Session specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 3):*** | **5** |

**Question 3(a):** 你上个星期参加了学校的一个节日庆祝活动。请给笔友写一封信，说说：
You participated in a celebration at school last week. Please write a letter to your pen-pal to talk about:

| Tick | Accept | Mark |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 你们庆祝了什么节日；What festival did you celebrate? <br><br> Allow any festival | **1** |
| 2 | 那天的天气怎么样；What is the weather like on that day? <br><br> Allow any description | **1** |
| 3 | 你们是怎么庆祝的；How did you celebrate? <br><br> **ACCEPT:** any description <br><br> **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.* | **1** |
| 4 | 你最喜欢什么活动；What activities do you like the most? <br><br> **ACCEPT:** any activity | **1** |
| 5 | 为什么 Why? <br><br> Any opinions or justification | **1** |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| 3(b) | **Question 3(b):** 学校报社想了解一下学生对体育活动的看法。请给报社写一篇文章，谈一谈： <br> The school magazine wants to know students' views on sports activities. Please write an article to talk about: | **5** |

| Tick | Accept | Mark |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 去年学校有哪些体育活动； <br> What sports activities did you have last year at school <br> Award: any activity | **1** |
| 2 | 最近你参加了什么体育比赛； <br> What sports competition have you participated in recently? <br> past time frame <br><br> *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.* | **1** |
| 3 | 你觉得那次比赛怎么样； <br> What do you think about that competition? <br> Any opinion | **1** |
| 4 | 学生们每个星期做多长时间的体育活动； <br> How long do students do sports every week? <br><br> Any length of time | **1** |
| 5 | 你觉得做运动有什么好处。 <br> What are the benefits of doing sports? <br> Any opinion or justification | **1** |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| 3(c) | ***Question 3(c):*** 你在坐地铁，忽然看到有人偷东西。请说说：<br>You were taking a tube and suddenly saw someone stealing*.* Please talk about *(narrative)* | **5** |

| Tick | Accept | Mark |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 小偷长得怎么样；what was the thief look like?<br><br>Allow any description | **1** |
| 2 | 他/她偷了什么东西；What did he/ she steal?<br><br>Allow any item<br><br>**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.* | **1** |
| 3 | 你觉得你应该做什么；What did you think you should do?<br><br>Reward any action | **1** |
| 4 | 后来发生了什么事；What happened afterwards?<br><br>Allow any consequence / sequence of events | **1** |
| 5 | **Appropriate elaboration of one of the bullet points**<br><br>Additional communication mark awarded flexibly for extra detail relating to any of the first four bullet points in the question. | **1** |

|  |  | Marks |
|---|---|---|
|  | <u>**3.2 – award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters**</u> | **5** |
|  | ***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** | 10 |
| | *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.

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** | **5** |

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.