

Cambridge IGCSE™

MANDARIN CHINESE

0547/04

Paper 4 Writing

For examination from 2028

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 40

Specimen

This document has **12** pages.

Generic Marking Principles

All examiners must apply these general marking principles when marking candidate responses. Examiners must apply them alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptions for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme must also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptions for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptions for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptions.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however, the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptions in mind.

Additional guidance

- 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. |

- Annotation used in the Mark Scheme:**

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

- No response and '0' marks**

| | |
|------------|---|
| (a) | 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). |
| (b) | 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. |

- **Optional questions:**

Mark all questions attempted by the candidate. Where the candidate attempts more than one of the alternatives in Question 3, the marking system will take the best mark.

- **Using mark schemes with grade descriptors:**

Start at the bottom of the mark scheme and work upwards through the descriptors when awarding marks.

The marker should look at the work and then make a judgement about which level statement is the 'best fit'. In practice, work does not always match one level statement precisely so a judgement may need to be made between two or more level statements.

Once a 'best-fit' level statement has been identified, use the following guidance to decide on a specific mark:

- If the candidate's work convincingly meets the level statement, award the highest mark.
- If the candidate's work adequately meets the level statement, award the mark in the middle of the range (if applicable).
- If the candidate's work just meets the level statement, award the lowest mark.

Detailed mark scheme

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | <p>Candidates are required to complete 5 gaps in Chinese. Read all of the items that the candidate has listed and award marks as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award 1 mark for each correct item. • On Question 1, award marks for items wherever the candidate has written them provided the candidate has made clear which part of the form they refer to. • Mark for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies, provided the message is clear. Ignore any measure word, possessive adjective, etc. • If a character is inaccurate, start by referring to the table below. Refer to the questions below if no decision on the character you have encountered is recorded there. <p>If you read aloud what the candidate has written, does it sound like the correct answer and would a native speaker of Chinese understand it?</p> <p>Does what the candidate has written look like the correct answer, e.g. one stroke missing but no other word created? Would a native speaker of Chinese understand it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reject inaccurate characters which suggest a word with a quite different meaning. • All answers must fulfil the communicative purpose described in the rubric. | 5 |

| Question | Answer | Marks | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 | <p>你是<u>李丹</u>，你想参观上海的一所国际学校。请用<u>中文</u>填写下面的表格。</p> <p>You are <u>Li Dan</u>, and you would like to visit an international school in Shanghai. Please fill in the following form in <u>Chinese</u>.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td><td>ACCEPT</td><td>REFUSE</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gap 1 (1 mark)</td><td>Any appropriate countries, e.g. 英国、美国</td><td>Refuse vocabulary which cannot be considered as a country.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gaps 2 and 3 (1 mark each)</td><td>Any appropriate subjects, e.g. 科学、数学</td><td>Refuse vocabulary which cannot be considered as a subject, e.g. 喜欢书、学校、地理</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gaps 4 and 5 (1 mark each)</td><td>Any appropriate hobbies, e.g. 游泳、打网球</td><td>Refuse vocabulary which cannot be considered as a hobby.</td></tr> </table> | | ACCEPT | REFUSE | Gap 1 (1 mark) | Any appropriate countries, e.g. 英国、美国 | Refuse vocabulary which cannot be considered as a country. | Gaps 2 and 3 (1 mark each) | Any appropriate subjects, e.g. 科学、数学 | Refuse vocabulary which cannot be considered as a subject, e.g. 喜欢书、学校、地理 | Gaps 4 and 5 (1 mark each) | Any appropriate hobbies, e.g. 游泳、打网球 | Refuse vocabulary which cannot be considered as a hobby. | |
| | ACCEPT | REFUSE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Gaps 4 and 5 (1 mark each) | Any appropriate hobbies, e.g. 游泳、打网球 | Refuse vocabulary which cannot be considered as a hobby. | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 2 | <p>写一写你喜欢的一个商店。</p> <p>Write about a shop you like.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 那个商店在哪里； 它每天几点开门； 谁常常去那里； 你觉得那个商店怎么样； 下次你会去那里买什么。 <p>用<u>中文</u>写八十-一百个字。</p> <p>Write 80–100 characters in <u>Chinese</u>.</p> <p>Read the whole answer, award a mark from each of the two tables below and add up the total. Marks are available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> task completion (maximum 5 marks) range and accuracy (maximum 5 marks). | 10 |

Task completion

All tasks must be completed for full marks to be awarded in ‘task completion’.

Responses that do not address all tasks but meet the remaining level statement can be awarded a mark in the top level.

| Marks | Descriptor |
|--------------|---|
| 4–5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completes most or all tasks in the required level of detail.• Provides consistently relevant information and opinions. |
| 2–3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completes some tasks in the required level of detail.• Provides some relevant information and opinions. |
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completes minimal tasks in the required level of detail.• May provide information; is almost always irrelevant. |
| 0 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No creditable response. |

Range and Accuracy

| Marks | Descriptor | Guidance |
|--------------|---|--|
| 4–5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses straightforward vocabulary and structures. • Links words and phrases using a range of simple connectors. • Meaning is clear and communication is achieved, although there may be some linguistic inaccuracies. | <p>Examples of linguistic inaccuracies: word order, timeframes, characters</p> <p>Examples of linking words and phrases: <i>and, or, but, because, then</i></p> <p>Give ticks to items on a list</p> |
| 2–3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses limited vocabulary and structures with some repetition. • Some attempt to link words or phrases using a limited range of simple connectors with some repetition. • Meaning is sometimes clear and some communication is achieved, despite linguistic inaccuracies. | |
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses isolated words/phrases appropriate to the task. • Little attempt to link words or phrases. • Meaning is unclear and communication is rarely achieved. | |
| 0 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No creditable response. | |

Numbered ticks will be added to the list of annotations to help with task completion.

Very short answers

If a response is under 40 characters long, a maximum of 3 marks can be awarded for task completion.

Pinyin

Occasional use of pinyin will not affect marking for communication, but for essays written predominantly in pinyin (i.e. more pinyin than characters) this must be taken into account for marks.

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|--|---|-------|
| <p>从题目3(a) 和3(b)中选择一个, 用中文写一百五十个字左右。</p> <p>Answer Question 3(a) <u>or</u> Question 3(b). Write about 150 characters <u>in Chinese</u>.</p> | | |
| 3(a) | <p><u>新手机</u></p> <p>你收到了一个新手机。写一封信给你的爷爷, 说说:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 你的新手机是什么样的; • 这个手机是谁送给你的; • 他/她为什么送你手机; • 你觉得这个手机怎么样; • 这个手机你打算用几年。 <p>Read the whole answer, award a mark from each of the three tables below and add up the total. Marks are available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • task completion (maximum 9 marks) • range (maximum 9 marks) • accuracy (maximum 7 marks). | 25 |
| 3(b) | <p><u>OR</u></p> <p><u>校服</u></p> <p>《学校周报》要了解一下学生对新校服的看法。请给校报写一篇文章, 说说:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 学校是什么时候换校服的; • 新校服多少钱; • 新校服是什么样的; • 学校为什么要换校服; • 上学穿校服有什么好处/坏处。 <p>Read the whole answer, award a mark from each of the three tables below and add up the total. Marks are available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • task completion (maximum 9 marks) • range (maximum 9 marks) • accuracy (maximum 7 marks). | 25 |

Task completion

All tasks must be completed for full marks to be awarded in ‘task completion’.

Responses that do not address all tasks but meet the remaining level statements can be awarded a mark in the top level.

| Marks | Descriptor |
|--------------|--|
| 7–9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completes most or all tasks. • Writing is convincing and relevant. • Gives detailed information, opinions/reactions and explanations. |
| 4–6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completes some tasks. • Writing is occasionally ambiguous or irrelevant. • Gives straightforward information, opinions/reactions and explanations. |
| 1–3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts some tasks with some success. • Ambiguity or irrelevance compromises meaning. • Gives basic information and opinions. |
| 0 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No creditable response. |

Range

| Marks | Descriptor |
|--------------|---|
| 7–9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses extended, well-linked sentences frequently and appropriately. • Uses a wide range of simple and complex structures to produce sentences of varying length. • Uses a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the task(s). |
| 4–6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses some extended sentences, with some evidence of linkage. • Uses simple structures and attempts to use some complex structures. • Uses mostly straightforward vocabulary appropriate to the task(s) with some repetition. |
| 1–3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses simple structures and makes no attempt at using complex structures. • Relies on repeated use of a small range of straightforward vocabulary. |
| 0 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No creditable response. |

Accuracy

| Marks | Descriptor |
|------------|--|
| 6–7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistent control of grammar and sentence structure; not necessarily faultless.• Consistent control of spelling; not necessarily faultless.• Occasional errors do not impede communication. |
| 3–5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some control of grammar and sentence structure.• Some control of spelling.• Errors sometimes impede communication. |
| 1–2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Little control of grammar and sentence structure.• Little control of spelling.• Errors frequently impede communication. |
| 0 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No creditable response. |

How to deal with short essays

If the candidate has written less than half the suggested number of characters (75 or less), award a maximum of 5 for range and 4 for accuracy. An essay of 75–100 characters can be awarded a maximum of 6 for range and 5 for accuracy.

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 accuracy 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 accuracy, but for essays written predominantly in pinyin (i.e. more pinyin than characters) this must be taken into account in the accuracy mark.

Irrelevance

- Sections of material unrelated to any of the bullet points will be disregarded.
- If the whole answer to Question 3 is irrelevant (e.g. contains no evidence of being related to the bullet points set), award 0 for task completion, range and accuracy.
- If Question 3 is attempted but communication is not achieved (i.e. the candidate misunderstood the question), award a maximum of 4 for range and a best fit for task completion and accuracy.