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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa  
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

## Level 1 Chinese (Mandarin) RAS 2023

**91954 Demonstrate understanding of written  
Chinese related to everyday contexts**

# EXEMPLAR

**Excellence**

**TOTAL 23**

## Page 1 – Pilot Assessment

### QUESTION ONE: 简介 (Profiles)

Read Text A on page 2 of the resource booklet.

(a) What can you learn about Xiaoming from his friends?

From reading Meimei's profile, we can discern that Xiaoming isn't very good at maths, and so he usually relies on Meimei to help him with studying the subject. Lanlan's profile states that her cooking is very tasty, and from her profile, we learn that Xiaoming also likes good food, as he frequently comes over to Lanlan's house to eat her meals.

Both profiles mention Xiaoming playing soccer with another person--in Meimei's profile, it's her older brother, who is also a soccer coach; Lanlan herself plays with Xiaoming--and so we can conclude that Xiaoming also likes to play soccer.

(b) Which friend should Xiaoming spend Saturday with? Justify your answer using evidence from the text.

Assuming that Xiaoming values both his academic success and his time spent playing soccer, he should spend Saturday with Meimei.

Meimei will be busy during Saturday morning, so while Xiaoming can't spend time with her directly, he can spend time with her older brother, who's a sports teacher. As Meimei's older brother is both very friendly and likes playing soccer, they can play together, and, with his knowledge as a sports teacher and his friendliness suggesting a willingness to help the people around him, he can teach Xiaoming both theoretical and practical knowledge about sports, and help him integrate such knowledge into soccer playing. This would allow Xiaoming to not only enjoy himself during the morning, but also improve quickly and play at a higher calibre due to the knowledge he can gain from the older brother's expertise, which would increase his enjoyment of the sport and may allow him to be noticed for professional opportunities in the future or establish strong connections should he pursue soccer socially. Establishing a connection with Meimei's older brother may also help Xiaoming with gaining business opportunities in the future due to the former's job (i.e., enabling networking).

The passage has also stated that Xiaoming struggles with maths. As Meimei will be studying once she's free in the afternoon, her and Xiaoming can spend their time studying together. This will give Xiaoming the opportunity to ask Meimei for help on questions or topics he's struggling with. This will allow Xiaoming to improve at maths (and increase his academic abilities at large) while also spending time with his friend Meimei, unlocking him doors which may have been blocked due to lower grades while granting him the gratification of spending time with his friends.

While Lanlan is more readily available as an individual to Xiaoming--being able to play sports with him directly--she does not seem to offer Xiaoming any opportunities for growth while enjoying himself, unlike what spending time with Meimei would offer. The only other asset she has is the ability to cook good food, which, while this may satisfy Xiaoming in the short-term, will not help him advance in the long-term.

Despite Lanlan's house being closer to Xiaoming's, while Meimei lives a little farther away, Xiaoming's opportunity cost of travelling farther is worth it for the significant long-term improvements Xiaoming can reap from him spending time with Meimei. Additionally, Lanlan's boyfriend doesn't like it when she plays sports with Xiaoming, so Xiaoming not hanging out with Lanlan would allow her to preserve a healthy relationship with her boyfriend for the time being.

## Page 2 – Pilot Assessment

### QUESTION TWO: 旅行日记 (Travel diary)

Read Text B on page 3 of the resource booklet.

(a) Describe the differences between Hamilton and Moeraki.

- \* Hamilton is in the North Island, while Moeraki is in the South Island.
- \* Hamilton's roads and walkways are very congested, while, in Moeraki, you can drive for long stretches.
- \* Hamilton is a big city, while Moeraki is a small, rural village.
- \* Hamilton has a large population density, while Moeraki's population is smaller. This means that Hamilton has more shops than Moeraki.
- \* Hamilton has modern facilities such as a cinema and library, while Moeraki does not. It also has an abundance of shops and restaurants, while Moeraki has significantly fewer.

(b) Which place do you think the author enjoyed visiting more? Justify your answer using evidence from the text.

The author enjoyed visiting Moeraki more.

They mention that, while Hamilton's temperatures fluctuate between extremes of heat and cold during the summer and winter seasons respectively, while Moeraki has no such fluctuation. They further extend Moeraki's lack of fluctuation to increased enjoyment during one of their activities, swimming, at a pretty beach. This implies that, while the author may have felt uncomfortable with the intense temperatures in Hamilton, they actively enjoyed both the lack of extreme weather itself and more of what Moeraki has to offer overall due to its lack of extreme weather fluctuation.

They imply that both places have good food, with them providing a personal comment on Hamilton's cuisine while pointing to the fame of Moeraki's restaurants--so much so that many people drive in to Moeraki to specifically eat at such shops. This puts them at a level of equal quality in the reader's eyes. However, they make it a point to mention that Hamilton's food is a little expensive, suggesting that individuals in Moeraki would pay less for the same quality of food and hence have more money to spend, making their opinion of Moeraki as a whole appear more positive.

The author makes it a point to highlight the modernity of Hamilton by comparing its abundance of facilities (a cinema and a library) to Moeraki's absence of such facilities, its population density and interesting personalities compared to Moeraki's scarcity of people, and the quality of its shops, which sells aesthetically items such as clothing, smartphones, laptops, and bookbags at a cheap price. They put these qualities in a positive light. They then bring this into their commentary on Moeraki, stating that if an individual would like these facilities or the general atmosphere of congestion, then they'll have to be prepared to drive there, as Moeraki is at a long distance from many of these facilities. While this would be an inconvenience for many visitors, the author instead recontextualises this as a charm point, stating that they enjoyed the long drives Moeraki had to offer. This further emphasises that the author enjoyed Moeraki significantly more than they did Hamilton.

They further advertise Moeraki to the reader by stating that many others enjoy coming to Moeraki for holidays, as well as being well-renowned for their cuisine, persuading them to come to Moeraki with objective facts contrary to stating mere opinions. This shows that they view Moeraki more highly. They also make a complaint about Hamilton's road and walkway congestions making travel around the urban city inconvenient without framing in a positive light, putting Hamilton down in relation to Moeraki.

## Page 3 – Pilot Assessment

### QUESTION THREE: 招聘广告 (Job advertisement)

Read Text C on page 4 of the resource booklet.

(a) What are the requirements for the position being advertised?

- \* The candidate must be able to work between 3PM to 5PM on weekdays, and from 8AM to 2PM on weekends.
- \* They must be able to teach Te Reo Maori and Physical Education at a primary level to Year 1 to 6 students. For PE specifically, the advertiser is looking for candidates who know how to play ping pong, soccer, basketball, to swim, basketball, and will welcome these candidates.

(b) Which student is more likely to be offered the job? Justify your answer using evidence from the text.

Huahua is more likely to be offered the job, as Huahua is a stronger applicant than Tiantian.

Both students have explicitly stated their current occupations--Huahua is a university student, while Tiantian is a middle school student. The job position requires working with primary school students, which requires a high level of maturity to teach in a way which both commands their attention and is attentive to each student's individual needs. As Huahua has gone through schooling until university, they have had time to both generally mature and reflect on their own experiences as a student, allowing them to approach both children and their colleagues with maturity and wisdom. Tiantian is only in middle school, which puts them at a significantly closer age range to primary schoolers, and hence they are not only lacking wisdom which Huahua would have due to experiencing more schooling and life at large--making it more difficult to interact with adult colleagues--but may also still have inappropriate habits from elementary school which they may accidentally teach to primary school children. This makes Huahua a significantly stronger candidate than Tiantian.

Furthermore, both are students, and so both students will have important academic obligations, but only Tiantian makes this a point of inconvenience in their application, while Huahua doesn't mention it. This insinuates that Tiantian currently lacks the time management skills to balance his life which may affect their performance on the job and may lead to cases where Tiantian consistently cannot come to shifts, while Huahua has higher time management skills, and will likely provide more consistency and higher performance in the long-term. Additionally, the specific time period taken off by Tiantian means a month of labour is lost, while Huahua offers to make up for arriving to their shift later than advised by working into the evening. This makes Huahua a stronger applicant, as Huahua is able to put in enough time to fulfil their obligations according to the firm's standards, while Tiantian cannot.

Huahua is learning Te Reo Maori in university; Tiantian doesn't know Te Reo Maori, but should be able to find somebody who can teach them. As the position requires an individual who can speak Te Reo Maori, and languages in general require sustained practice and experience to be reliably taught, Huahua's existing experience makes them a significantly stronger candidate than Tiantian, who will not have as much of a control over the language. Additionally, Tiantian's use of "should" implies that they are uncertain whether they will be able to find a teacher, and an inability to find a teacher would lead to the firm hiring a weaker candidate for the long-term, which has devastating opportunity costs.

Tiantian knows how to play all of the sports required, while Huahua doesn't know how to swim. However, Huahua can learn how to. This, admittedly, does make Tiantian a stronger applicant due to a lack of opportunity cost invested in training, though not to a degree which would shadow their overall weaknesses, as Huahua states that they're willing to pick up the sport if needed.

Both students mention who they play sports with. Huahua plays with their friends, while Tiantian plays with their younger brother and sister. This gives them equal strength: Huahua demonstrates their social skills and ability to interact with those their age, which will give them an advantage with colleague interactions; Tiantian demonstrates their experience with working with young children, which will give them an advantage with hands-on work.

## Excellence

**Subject:** Chinese (Mandarin)

**Standard:** 91954

**Total score:** 23

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	E8	The candidate demonstrated a detailed and accurate understanding by responding fully, interpreting language and content choices, and justifying conclusions about the text. For example, in the last paragraph they demonstrate that they are able to interpret the subtleties of Lanlan and Meimei's relationships with Xiaoming. In this paragraph the candidate clearly justifies their conclusion by using accurate evidence from the text.
Two	E8	The candidate demonstrated a detailed and accurate understanding by responding fully, interpreting language and content choices, and justifying conclusions about the text. In part (b), the candidate concluded that the author enjoyed visiting Moeraki most. They backed up their discussion with accurate supporting information about both Hamilton and Moeraki from the text.
Three	E7	The candidate demonstrated a detailed and accurate understanding of the job requirements for part (a). They also showed a thorough understanding of the information about Huahua and Tiantian, and used evidence from the text to justify their conclusions.