2022 NCEA Assessment Report

Subject: **Chinese**

Level: **2**

Standards: **91108, 91111**

Part A: Commentary

Level 2 NCEA Chinese moves beyond simple statements about personal opinions to set out the motivations, justifications, and explanations of someone's actions, feelings, and decisions. Candidates who had a good knowledge of all NCEA Level 1 and Level 2 vocabulary and structures and who had familiarised themselves with developed sentences with explanatory and justifying purpose did well.

Candidates are advised to make as many connections as they can between the evidence and the question. Quality answers need to be based on evidence in the texts and not based on prior knowledge and/or personal opinions. Any conclusion or implied meaning needs to be supported by evidence from the text, with explicit explanations of links between evidence and conclusion, to demonstrate understanding.

At Achievement level, candidates are expected to show basic understanding of the general idea or plot of the passage. At Merit level, candidates are expected to demonstrate clear understanding of the passage, which could be an errorless or near-errorless awareness of relevant aspects of the passage. At Excellence level, candidates are expected to draw conclusions based on clear understanding, for example, what does this mean? Why is this part of the passage important? How does this evidence support one opinion or point of view?

Part B: Report on standards

91111: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken Chinese texts on familiar matters

Examination

Three passages were written for the 2022 examination, with one question for each listening passage. The topics covered by the passages included: a conversation comparing life with COVID-19 in China and New Zealand; a conversation about whether it is better to exercise in the gym or outdoors; and a voice message seeking advice on which of two cities to move to. The number of passages and questions are in accordance with the AS91108 assessment specifications, which are to, "listen and respond to recordings of three spoken texts, which they will hear as a whole and twice in sections."

In 2022, one of the key focuses was ensuring that the wording of the question allowed candidates to draw conclusions that are based on the text, rather than their personal opinions. A question asking for the reader's opinion on where to exercise, for example, needs to be worded so that candidates responded based on the two people's discussion.

Observations

Overall, a higher number of candidates achieved at Merit and Excellence levels. Candidates needed to demonstrate general understanding of the passages to achieve each question, while candidates who demonstrated clear understanding by an almost faultless understanding achieved with Merit. At Excellence level, candidates showed thorough interpretation of the passages.

Native speakers sometimes offer a perfect translation of the passages with no inferencing, or a conclusion that clearly showed they understood the passage but contained little reference to the evidence provided in the texts. In both above situations, candidates were awarded Merit. These are the main points of difference between Merit and Excellence.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- answered with few correct facts from the listening passages
- showed some understanding of the texts and were able to extract key words in their answers
- provided basic answer without evaluation and/or explanation supported by evidence from the text
- showed some inconsistencies in the details they provided.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- showed limited or no awareness of the vocabulary or structures of the spoken texts
- answered with few correct details from the listening passages.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- answered with mostly correct facts from the listening passages
- demonstrated in-depth and clear understanding of the text and able to provide detailed information and evidence from the text
- understood main ideas in the text but not fully understand inferences required for thorough understanding in question
- provided some evidence showing clear understanding and drew some accurate conclusions based on the passages.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- answered with correct detail and support of evidence using some inference.
- demonstrated clear understanding of inferences written in the texts and subtle details
- showed awareness of intercultural knowledge which influence analysing of information and provide points of contrast

- drew accurate conclusions based on a wide range and fully integrated comprehensive evidence from the passage in supporting their answers.

91111: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of written and/or visual Chinese text(s) on familiar matters

Examination

Three texts were written for the 2022 examination, with one question for each written text. The topics covered by the passages included: a website with restaurant reviews to help reader decide which is the better restaurant to celebrate Spring Festival with family; a conversation anout one person inviting another to visit China for a ski trip; and a conversation about whether one of the protagonist should join the Kapa Haka group for Polyfest. The number of texts and questions are in accordance with the AS91111 assessment specifications, which state, "candidates will read and respond to three written texts representative of different text types."

Candidates are advised that Excellence and Merit level answers require a very solid receptive knowledge of all NCEA Level 1 and Level 2 vocabulary and structures.

Candidates may familiarise themselves with developed sentences with explanatory and justifying purposes. Level 2 Chinese moves beyond simple statements about personal opinions to explaining the motivators, justifications, and explanations of someone's actions, feelings, and decisions.

Observations

Candidates are advised to make as many connections as they can between the evidence and the question. Candidates are also reminded that quality answers need to be based on evidence in the texts and not based on prior knowledge and / or personal opinions. Any conclusion or implied understanding must be supported by evidence from the text. All candidates would benefit from practising examination techniques, including offline candidates who are sitting the examinations but do not attend classes. This teaches them the level of detail expected in answering at Excellence, Merit, and Achievement levels. Candidates will also develop skills to allocate time evenly for completing and proofreading answers, and how to interpret texts for inferred or implied meanings.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- answered with correct evidence from the texts
- showed some understanding of the texts and able to extract key words in their answers
- provided basic answers without evaluation and/or explanation supported by evidence from the text

- showed some inconsistencies in the details they provided, e.g. understood that one restaurant was cheaper than the other but did not provide numerical evidence; provided general information on why Lin Shu should join both cultural groups, but did not make connections with the nature of the events.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- wrote very little evidence that contained a few correct keywords, but majority of the response was incorrect or contradictory
- showed limited or no understanding of the written texts.
- answered with little to no correct facts from the texts, e.g. they explained that one restaurant was better than the other, but only gave one reason with no detail, such as the first restaurant is cheaper; the second restaurant has better tasting food.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- answered with most relevant facts from the texts
- demonstrated clear understanding of the texts and was able to provide detailed information and evidence from the text
- understood main ideas in the text but did not show thorough understanding of the inferences required, e.g. understood the text faultlessly and made one concluding statement, but no connection between the words of the text and the conclusion
- showed ability to provide some evidence showing clear understanding and drew some accurate conclusions based on the passages.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- answered with all correct facts and supported with evidence using some inferencing
- demonstrated clear understanding of implications of the texts and subtle details
- demonstrated awareness of intercultural knowledge which influences analysing of information and provide points of contrast
- drew accurate conclusion based on a wide range and fully integrated comprehensive evidence from the passage in supporting their answers.