

# **National Certificate of Educational Achievement**

## **2011 Assessment Report**

### **Chinese Level 1**

- 90868 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken Chinese texts on areas of most immediate relevance**
- 90871 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of Chinese texts on areas of most immediate relevance**

## COMMENTARY

Overall, candidates performed well with the new standards, and were able to effectively demonstrate their understanding of both spoken and written Chinese texts. Successful candidates supported their explanations with relevant details, examples or inferences, and, in both standards, often employed note-taking strategies. They read questions carefully in order to understand what was being asked in relation to the text, and then crafted responses that answered what had been asked without irrelevant or unnecessary information. Though background knowledge can be helpful, successful candidates did not overgeneralise as a strategy; they took care to restrict supporting information to those relevant details from texts, or to link their answers to the texts.

Extracting relevant details from the texts is essential to demonstrate understanding for Achievement, Achievement with Merit, and Achievement with Excellence.

## STANDARD REPORTS

### **90868 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken Chinese texts on areas of most immediate relevance.**

#### ACHIEVEMENT

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- demonstrated sufficient understanding of Level One vocabulary and structures to provide basic responses to the questions
- provided sufficient details, evidence, or examples to show understanding of the general gist of the texts
- demonstrated clear understanding in parts of some questions.

#### NOT ACHIEVED

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- overgeneralised, using their background knowledge of key words in the question to guide them, but not in the way required by the question. This was particularly evident in Question One and Two, where some candidates' answers were not based on the conversation in the text
- completed only small sections of questions
- demonstrated limited understanding of the vocabulary in the Level One NCEA Vocabulary Appendix and, therefore, found it difficult to demonstrate understanding of the texts.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- demonstrated a clear understanding of the main ideas expressed in each spoken text
- supported their answers with generally appropriate evidence and examples from the texts
- maintained the focus of each question in their response to it; however, they sometimes missed out or made minor errors about some details.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- showed in-depth understanding of the spoken Chinese texts, and the vocabulary and structures used within
- produced answers based on inferences from the texts which were clear and logical, especially in Question Six
- demonstrated thorough understanding of all of the spoken texts in their detailed answers.

## **OTHER COMMENTS**

Candidates who used the spaces in the answer booklet for taking notes generally did better than those who did not. Note-taking in English, Pinyin, or characters was frequently seen with candidates who achieved at Merit or Excellence. Candidates who took notes provided answers that showed clear, thorough understanding of texts and questions.

Where questions asked candidates to 'explain,' those who achieved at higher levels generally provided more details in their answers.

## **90871 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of Chinese texts on areas of most immediate relevance**

### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- demonstrated sufficient understanding of characters used in the written texts to show a basic understanding of ideas in them
- supported their answers with some detail, but not enough to demonstrate clear understanding
- did not always explain their answers with relevant evidence from the texts.

## **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- did not understand key characters and vocabulary used within the written texts
- misinterpreted the general ideas of texts and provided answers that were not relevant or connected to the texts
- answered only some sections of questions or did not attempt all the questions.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- demonstrated a clear understanding of the main ideas expressed in each written text through their explanations
- supported their answers with generally appropriate evidence and examples from the texts and used most lines provided in the answer booklet – that is, they understood that the number of lines provided for a response was a good indication of how much to write in order to answer fully
- maintained the focus of each question in their response, but sometimes missed out or made errors with certain characters in the texts. Most commonly, this was connected to numbers and time expressions.

## **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- showed in-depth understanding of characters, vocabulary, and structures used within the texts by writing developed answers
- produced answers based on inferences from the texts that were clear and logical in their reasoning
- demonstrated thorough understanding of all of the written texts in their selection of relevant evidence from the texts.

## **OTHER COMMENTS**

Candidates who could justify their answers demonstrated clear and thorough understanding more effectively. These candidates were able to integrate relevant evidence and details into their explanations and justifications.

Candidates awarded Merit and Excellence level also often used all the space provided for their answers.

Candidates at Achievement and Not Achieved demonstrated incomplete understanding of the texts. They attempted only some questions or some parts of each question, and did not provide sufficient information in their answers to evidence their understanding.