

Assessment Report

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Part A: Commentary

Level 2 NCEA Chinese moves beyond simple statements about personal opinions to explaining 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 purposes 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 to demonstrate understanding.

Candidates are expected to show understanding of the surface meaning of the corresponding passage (Achievement), meaning between the lines (Merit), and meaning beyond the lines (Excellence). 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 translation of the passage, with no conclusion drawn. 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? What does this part tell the reader about the narrator's personality?*

Part B: Report on standards

91108: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken Chinese texts on familiar matters

Examinations

Three passages were written for the 2021 examination, with one question for each listening passage. The topics covered by the passages included (1) a conversation about a Chinese student spending Chinese New Year in New Zealand, (2) a conversation about whether cats or dogs make better pets, and (3) a passage about what it is like to live with grandparents. The number of passages and questions are in accordance with the 91108 assessment specifications, which is to “listen and respond to recordings of three spoken texts, which they will hear as a whole and twice in sections.”

In 2021, there was one whole question for each passage, so that candidates thought about and answered each passage holistically, instead of focusing on smaller aspects for each question.

Observations

Overall, candidates performed well, resulting in high numbers of Merit and Excellence. Candidates needed to provide a clear understanding of detail at the Achievement level and Merit level. The differentiation between M6 and E7 is the degree of detail and inference provided by the candidate. Some candidates provided limited detail in their answers but did still get Achieved. Candidates need to learn how to make inferences instead of rewriting the text. It is irrelevant which language they use to answer the questions.

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 keywords 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.

Candidates whose work was assessed as **Not Achieved** commonly:

- showed limited or no understanding of the spoken texts.
- answered with one or fewer correct facts from the listening passages.

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

- demonstrated clear understanding of the text and were able to provide detailed information and evidence from the text
- shows understanding of main ideas from the passages but did not show inferencing required for thorough understanding of the question
- showed ability to provide some evidence showing clear understanding and drew accurate conclusions based on the passages.

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

- answered with all correct facts and supported by evidence, using some inference
- successfully demonstrated thorough understanding with supporting evidence drawn from the text
- demonstrated clear inferences within the texts and subtle details
- showed awareness of intercultural knowledge which influences analysis of information and provided 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 texts on familiar matters

Examinations

Three texts were written for the 2021 examination, with one question for each reading passage. The topics covered by the passages included (1) a conversation about Chinese and Western medicine, (2) a conversation about how to write a good CV, and (3) a conversation about what to do at the weekend. The number of passages and questions are in accordance with the assessment specifications.

In 2021, there was one whole question for each text, so that candidates thought about and answered each passage holistically, instead of focusing on smaller aspects for each question.

Observations

Overall, this standard for 2021 provided ample inferencing opportunities. All questions were scaffolded in a way that allowed candidates of different language levels to achieve. The level of inferencing required for an Excellence also proved to be an effective differentiator for Merit and Excellence candidates.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- showed some understanding of the basic plot of the texts
- responded to question one with general knowledge about Chinese medicine, but did not show clear understanding of the text
- showed understanding of the parts about staying up to play computer games and how he should list skills relevant to the job he wants to apply for, but not the motivation why he wants to become a Chinese teacher.

Candidates were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- failed to demonstrate basic holistic understanding of the texts
- wrote very short answers with inaccurate information
- did not attempt any or some questions of the paper.

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

- demonstrated clear holistic understanding of the texts
- provided a summary of the text in Chinese without explicitly answering the question

- provided accurate overall translations of relevant information and evidence, although may not have included a conclusion
- showed inferencing that reflected a thorough understanding but did not provide translation of the relevant parts of the texts.

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

- demonstrated a thorough and holistic understanding of the texts
- communicated at least some of the implied meanings from the texts
- drew accurate conclusions based on a wide range of fully integrated, comprehensive evidence from the passage.

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