2024 NCEA Assessment Report

Subject:	Chinese
Level:	Level 2
Achievement standard(s):	91108, 91111

General commentary

The Level 2 Chinese listening and reading assessments go beyond simple statements of personal opinions to explore motivations, justifications, and explanations for actions, feelings, and decisions. Candidates should note that achieving Excellence and Merit requires a solid grasp of all NCEA Level 1 and Level 2 vocabulary and structures, as well as familiarity with complex sentences that explain or justify ideas.

Candidates are encouraged to connect evidence from the texts to the questions as much as possible. Quality answers must be based on textual evidence, not prior knowledge or personal opinions. Any conclusions or implied meanings should be supported by explicit explanations linking evidence to conclusions, demonstrating comprehensive understanding.

Achievement requires showing basic understanding of the general idea or plot. Merit involves demonstrating clear understanding of the passage, but the candidate has not provided inferences or drawn conclusions. Excellence requires drawing well-supported conclusions based on clear understanding. Candidates at Excellence level should consider questions like: "What meanings can be inferred from this passage?" "Why is this part significant?" and "How does this evidence support a specific opinion or viewpoint?"

Report on individual achievement standard(s)

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

Assessment

Three passages were written for the 2024 listening examination, with one or two questions for each passage. The familiar topics covered by the texts included a conversation about subject choices and plans for the future; a presentation about a trip to China; and an interview about university study plans. The number of passages and questions are in accordance with the AS91108 assessment specifications, which states candidates will "listen and respond to recordings of three spoken texts, which they will hear as a whole and twice in sections."

Commentary

Overall, a high number of candidates achieved this standard, and the majority of candidates achieved at Merit and Excellence levels. Candidates are expected to show general comprehension of the passages for each question. At Excellence level, candidates demonstrated a thorough interpretation, an understanding of implied meanings, and an ability to draw conclusions, all of which were supported by evidence from the text.

All candidates would benefit from practising examination techniques. For example, they should proofread their answers and learn to allocate their time appropriately to all questions and how to interpret texts for inferred or implied meanings, which is an expectation for the Merit and Excellence grade bands.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- answered with some correct facts from the passages
- demonstrated some understanding of the passage by translating the passage, but has not answered the question fully
- provided basic answers without evaluation and / or explanation, supported by evidence from the passages
- showed some inconsistencies in the details provided, or confused individual vocabulary items, particularly in Question One where many candidates answered 'English' instead of 'Music'.

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

- answered with facts from the passage, most of which were correct
- demonstrated clear understanding of the passages and were able to provide most of the detailed information with evidence from the passages
- understood the main ideas in the passages, but did not show a thorough understanding of the inferences required to reach Excellence
- demonstrated an ability to provide some relevant evidence and provided accurate conclusions or summaries based on the passages.

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

- answered correctly with facts that are supported with specific evidence, using inferencing
- demonstrated a full understanding with supporting evidence drawn from the passage
- demonstrated awareness of intercultural knowledge evident in the analysis of information and provided points of contrast
- showed clear and insightful understanding of inferences in the passages and subtle details
- provided accurate conclusions based on a wide range of information and fully integrated comprehensive evidence from the passages to support their answers.

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

- did not attempt the question or provided very little evidence in their response, consisting of a few keywords
- showed limited or no understanding of the listening passages, with inconsistent or contradictory information
- answered with few to no correct facts from the texts.

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

Assessment

Three texts were written for the 2024 examination, with one or two questions for each text. The topics covered by the texts included: a blog about a Chinese tea house; a conversation about technology in

high schools; and emails between two students about school life in New Zealand and China. The number of texts and questions are in accordance with the AS91111 assessment specifications, which states candidates will "read and respond to three written texts representative of different text types."

Commentary

In general, a high number of candidates achieved this standard, and the majority were awarded Merit or Excellence. Candidates were advised to make as many connections as possible between the evidence and the question. All candidates would benefit from practising examination techniques. This would teach them the level of detail expected to achieve at Excellence, Merit, and Achievement levels. Candidates should also develop time allocation and proofreading skills, and learn how to interpret texts for inferred or implied meanings.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- displayed a basic understanding and conveyed the general meaning of the texts
- showed some inconsistencies in the details they provided, or may have lacked clear details
- provided basic answers without evaluation and / or explanation supported by evidence from the texts.

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

- demonstrated clear understanding of the texts and were able to provide most of the detailed information with evidence from the text
- showed an ability to provide some evidence showing clear understanding and drew accurate conclusions based on the texts
- understood the main ideas in the texts but did not show thorough understanding of the inferences required to be awarded Excellence.

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

- demonstrated a comprehensive understanding and conveyed most implied meanings by providing detailed supporting information from the text to justify their conclusions and / or inferences fully
- demonstrated clear understanding of subtle details
- elaborated on the ideas or opinions presented, demonstrating comprehensive understanding of the texts.

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

- exhibited minimal understanding and failed to convey the overall meaning of the written texts
- gave very little evidence that may have contained a few correct keywords, but the majority of the response was incorrect or contradictory.