



National  
Qualifications  
2019

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2019 Cantonese  
Reading  
Higher  
Finalised Marking Instructions

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## General marking principles for Higher Cantonese Reading

*Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.*

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Award a mark for each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions and the answers for each question must come from the item.
- (d) Marks are available as follows:
  - (i) The first set of questions (worth 18 marks in total) asks candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. There are generally 1-3 marks available for each question.
  - (ii) The penultimate question is the overall purpose question, and candidates must identify the overall purpose of the text and draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of 2 marks available for reference to the text and detailed comment. Pegged mark descriptors (2/1/0) and associated commentary are available, along with further guidance, in the detailed marking instructions.
  - (iii) The last question is the translation. For this question, candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation is divided into five sense units. For each sense unit, award 2, 1 or 0 marks: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.
- (e) Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's answers. Award marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
1.	(a)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the population is declining/the birth rate is declining</li> <li>fewer and fewer babies/children are being born every year</li> <li>there are more and more old/elderly people</li> </ul> <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2	
	(b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>young people may not (necessarily) wish to have two children</li> <li>not many families want/decide to have a second child</li> </ul> <p>Any 1 from 2</p>	1	
2.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the income is not high</li> <li>busy at work</li> <li>it is (too) expensive to raise a child</li> <li>lots of pressure</li> </ul> <p>Any 3 from 4</p>	3	

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
3.	(a)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>they live with their parents</li> <li>live in a small apartment/flat</li> <li>they don't have much privacy/private space</li> <li>they cannot afford their own house</li> </ul> <p>Any 2 from 4</p>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>they cannot afford their own bedroom</li> </ul>
	(b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>they have (to pay for) English/maths (private) tuition</li> <li>he goes to music/piano lessons</li> <li>wants to go to university (which costs a lot)</li> </ul>	3	
4.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>maternity leave is too short/two months</li> <li>looking after children is tiring/hard</li> <li>her husband rarely helps</li> <li>she does not want to make herself that tired again</li> <li>she wants to enjoy her freedom/do whatever she wants</li> </ul> <p>Any 3 from 5</p>	3	

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
5.	(a)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (new) mums have (at least) six months maternity leave</li> <li>• they get paid (during maternity leave)</li> <li>• (new) dads can have time off/stay at home to look after kids/ paternity leave</li> </ul> <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2	
	(b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mum can take children to work/big companies provide their own nurseries</li> </ul>	1	
	(c)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government provides free nursery (places) to <u>low income families.</u></li> </ul>	1	

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
6.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• he is in favour of it</li> <li>• he has reservations/he thinks the government still has a lot of work to do</li> <li>• at the beginning, he explains that decline in birth rate and increasing age of population need to be addressed</li> <li>• he explains that many young couples do not want to have more than one child and gives various reasons</li> <li>• he gives examples of situations from other countries</li> </ul>	2	<p>Award 2 marks where the candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text.</p> <p>Award 1 mark where the candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of some justification.</p> <p>Award 0 marks where the candidate simply provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.</p>

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
7.			<p>Translate into English:</p> <p>中國百分之七十的年輕人和馬先生、馬太太的觀點一樣，… 所以想要有更高的生活水平。 (lines 20–22)</p>	10	<p>The translation into English is allocated 10 marks. The text for translation is divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth 2 marks. Award marks according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English.</p> <p>Award a mark for each sense unit, as follows</p> <p><b>2 marks - good</b> The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p><b>1 mark - satisfactory</b> The candidate understands and conveys essential information clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. They convey the key message in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English.</p> <p><b>0 marks - unsatisfactory</b> The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.</p>

Text	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
<b><u>Unit 1</u></b> 中國百分之七十的年輕人和馬先生、馬太太的觀點一樣，	In China, 70% of young people share the same view as Mr Ma and Mrs Ma,		
<b><u>Unit 2</u></b> 他們都不想生第二個孩子。	they do not want to have a second child.	they do not want to have second child.	they don't want two children.
<b><u>Unit 3</u></b> 現在大部分的年輕人和他們的父母有不一樣的夢想。	Now most young people have a different dream to their parents/do not have the same dream as their parents		a large section of; big part of plan; view
<b><u>Unit 4</u></b> 因為他們有過更好的教育，	Because they have had/experienced (a) better education,	good education	Because they have a better education.
<b><u>Unit 5</u></b> 所以想要有更高的生活水平。	(so) they want a higher standard of living.	standard of life	lifestyle; quality of life

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]