

Scholarship

2011 Assessment Report

Chinese

COMMENTARY

Reading / Speaking

In the Reading / Speaking section, successful candidates spoke with accuracy, fluency, and flair in communicating their ideas. Most showed confidence in their speaking performance and expressed their ideas well; however, their speeches were not wide enough in that they did not go beyond the given material.

Listening / Writing

The Listening / Writing part of the examination was well balanced. Some questions required only simple answers; others required expression of quite complicated Chinese phrases and ideas.

The majority of the candidates successfully attempted both questions. Most could convey their ideas as well as cover the information required. Generally, they used a variety of vocabulary and structures well, and demonstrated good understanding of cultural perspectives. The very best responded with substantial development, and demonstrated flexible use of idiomatic language skillfully and frequently. They developed answers using ideas/information that was not explicitly stated in the listening passage.

The less capable candidates often responded to Question One with considerable use of the given material, they repeated the sentences/phrases from the listening passages, and their answers contained little creative writing of their own.

SCHOLARSHIP WITH OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- showed thorough understanding of all the ideas from the stimulus text and substantially developed information from it
- used language beyond Chinese Curriculum Level 8 and expressed their ideas convincingly and skillfully with idioms
- went beyond reporting the ideas from the stimulus text, to give a first-person account of what they had seen, experienced, and felt
- used language flexibly, showing the ability to link ideas from the text in their own original and creative way and integrated a wide variety of vocabulary and structures with confidence.

SCHOLARSHIP

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship but not Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- understood all the ideas from the stimulus text developed information from it
- used appropriate idiomatic expressions frequently and integrated a wide variety of vocabulary and structures with confidence
- used language beyond Chinese Curriculum Level 8 and expressed their ideas convincingly with idioms

- used language flexibly, showing ability to link ideas from the text with their own
- expressed their opinions fluently and flexibly.

OTHER CANDIDATES

Candidates who were not awarded Scholarship or Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- copied verbatim from the original text and read from these copied notes, giving brief answers without developing their own ideas
- answered questions without flair or confidence
- had difficulty with the basic pronunciation and the correct use of the four tones in Chinese intonation
- commonly repeated the main points of the text without rephrasing, summarising, or using their own language to introduce the ideas from the text
- did not always answer all questions fully and often did not fulfill the requirements of the questions
- used language that contained a reasonable variety of vocabulary and structures appropriate to curriculum Level 8; however, these were not always comfortably integrated into their writing/speaking, indicating a lack of flexibility.