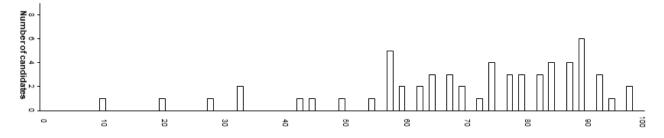


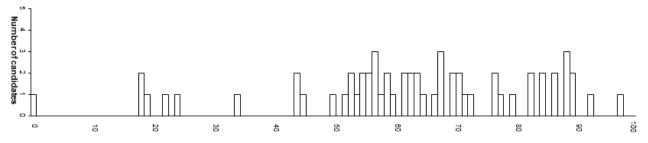
Summary report for candidates on the 2015 WACE examination in Chinese: Second Language Stage 3

Year	Number who sat all examination components	Number of absentees from all examination components
2015	60	0
2014	27	0
2013	51	0

Examination score distribution - Practical



Examination score distribution - Written



Summary

Candidates completed a practical (oral) and a written examination; the practical (oral) examination was weighted at 30% and the written examination weighted at 70%.

Practical examination

The practical (oral) examination consisted of three parts with two examinable parts, Part B: Discussion prompted by a stimulus item and Part C: Conversation. The mean for the practical (oral) examination was 71.25%.

Written examination

The written examination consisted of three sections with candidates being required to attempt all questions in Section One, Section Two and Section Three (Part A) and to choose one of three questions in Section Three (Part B). The mean for the written examination was 63.06% and individual marks ranged from a minimum of 17.86% to a maximum of 97.61%. The means for Section One, Section Two, Section Three (Part A) and Section Three (Part B) were 55.33%, 66.44%, 66.10% and 66.16% respectively.

General comments

Practical examination

The practical component was the stronger component of the Chinese: Second Language examination. There was a broad range of marks and the high mean could indicate that the examination was either not very difficult or candidates were prepared across all topics and themes.

The percentage means for the stimulus talk and the interview were 73.5% and 69% respectively, which was a big drop from 2014's 81.48% and 80.19% respectively.

Advice for candidates

- Ensure you cover all of the prescribed the topics.
- Increase your range of vocabulary and phrases as those offered in the examination are comparatively narrow and prefabricated.
- Practise your accuracy of language and grammar so that it does not falter when interrupted or prompted by markers.

Written examination

The examination was similar to that in 2014. Questions were spread across the range of topics in the syllabus and broad enough to allow candidates plenty of opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge. Every candidate attempted all sections of the paper, suggesting that the paper was appropriate in length and difficulty for this cohort. Correlation of question marks with the total marks was very good, indicating that there was consistency across sections within the paper.

Advice for candidates

• In both listening and reading candidates need to work on deducing accurate meanings from context, instead of just giving literal translation.

Comments on specific sections and questions Practical examination

Part B: Discussion prompted by stimulus item				
Attempted by 60 Candidates	Mean 11.02(/15)	Max 15.00	Min 1.50	

Candidates generally scored high marks for comprehension, which indicated that all candidates were well prepared and knew the content required. Most candidates explored the stimulus item in depth, however their language range (vocabulary and grammar) was the weakest part of the whole section; candidates need to expand their range of vocabulary which should subsequently improve their grammar. Candidates' pronunciation, intonation and flow of speech also spoilt their performance.

Comprehension	Mean 3.18	Max 4	Min 0
Response (relevance and depth of information)	Mean 3.10	Max 4	Min 0
Language range (vocabulary and grammar)	Mean 2.78	Max 4	Min 0
Language accuracy (grammar)	Mean 2.85	Max 4	Min 1
Speech (flow, pronunciation and intonation)	Mean 2.78	Max 4	Min 1
Part C: Conversation Attempted by 60 Candidates	Mean 10.35(/15)	Max 15.00	Min 1.50

Candidates achieved the second highest mean for comprehension in this section, which indicates they understood most questions and gave relevant responses. Candidates achieved the lowest mean for language accuracy. Responding in accurate language was challenging for some candidates when engaged in a spontaneous conversation in the context of an examination. Candidates achieved almost identical means for speech (flow, pronunciation and intonation) as they did in Part B for the same criteria.

Comprehension	Mean 2.83	Max 4	Min 0
Response (relevance and depth of information)	Mean 2.93	Max 4	Min 0
Language range (vocabulary and grammar)	Mean 2.70	Max 4	Min 0
Language accuracy (grammar)	Mean 2.57	Max 4	Min 1
Speech (flow, pronunciation and intonation)	Mean 2.77	Max 4	Min 1

Written examination			
Section One: Response (Listening and	d responding)		
Attempted by 60 Candidates	Mean 11.07(/20)	Max 19	Min 1

Candidates were capable of factual recall, analysis and extracting information from listening and reading texts, and were most challenged by items requiring summarising and reasoning, which received the lowest mean.

Section Two: Response (Viewing, reading and responding)			
Attempted by 60 Candidates	Mean 19.93(/30)	Max 30	Min 3
Section Three: Written communication Part A Attempted by 59 Candidates	: Short text Mean 5.29(/8)	Max 8	Min 0

The format of this communication that candidates were required to produce was a 'poster'. Many candidates did not follow the correct format, rather listing the Festival activities as rote learned descriptive notes. Some candidates added activities which are from other Chinese festivals not related to the question (e.g. dragon boat race).

Section Three: Written communication Part B: Longer text			
Attempted by 60 Candidates	Mean 7.94(/12)	Max 11.67	Min 3

The choice of question answered by the candidates was evenly spread between Questions 34, 35 and 36. In a number of instances, across all three questions, the grammar and sentence structures used by the candidates were weak. The organisation of ideas was poor generally and the conclusions offered unconvincing.