

2014 HSC Chinese Background Speakers Marking Guidelines

Section I — Listening and Responding Part A

Question 1 (a)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a perceptive understanding as to why Dongdong moved out of home	2
• Demonstrates some understanding as to why Dongdong moved out of home	1

Sample answer:

Dongdong wanted to move out of home because he didn't want to listen to his parents' nagging and his father did not like his girlfriend. Moreover, he wanted to enjoy freedom, he also wanted to live close to the university and the opportunity came when his classmate invited him to share accommodation.

Question 1 (b)

Criteria	Marks
Demonstrates a perceptive understanding of Dongdong's character	2
Demonstrates some understanding of Dongdong's character	1

Sample answer:

Dongdong wants to be independent and support himself economically. He is very self-centred and not respectful of his parents. On the other hand he is not mature enough to look after himself, eg he is not good at housework and cooking, his room is untidy.

Question 1 (c)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of how Xiaomei attempts to persuade Dongdong	E C
Responds in coherent English with appropriate textual references	6
• Demonstrates an excellent evaluation of the effectiveness of the text	
• Demonstrates a very good understanding of how Xiaomei attempts to persuade Dongdong	-
Responds in clear English with some textual references	5
• Demonstrates a good evaluation of the effectiveness of the text	
• Demonstrates a sound understanding of how Xiaomei attempts to persuade Dongdong	
• Responds in understandable English with a few textual references	4
• Demonstrates some evaluation of the effectiveness of the text	
Demonstrates some understanding of the interaction of both persons	2–3
Responds in understandable English	2–3
Provides some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

A) Unsuccessful

Even though Xiaomei has tried her utmost to persuade Dongdong to reconsider his relationship with his parents, she is not successful because Dongdong has a strong desire for freedom and independence. Xiaomei's persuasion only reminds him of his father's dislike of his girlfriend and this unsolvable conflict therefore reinforces his determination to stay out. Though he likes his mother's dumplings, he doesn't like his mother's nagging. Though he is a bit disorganised in the beginning, he believes he will get used to it. His remark "under no circumstances will I move back" clearly shows that his decision has never been wavered.

B) Successful

Even though Dongdong appears to be very determined to cherish his freedom and independence, his reaction to Xiaomei's persuasion hints that he might reconsider his relationship with his parents. Xiaomei tries to appeal to Dongdong's conscience by saying that he has been unfair to his parents and hurting their feelings. Dongdong's reply "you may be right" reveals that his conscience is pricking him. When Xiaomei continues to use her own experience to remind him not to get into a situation of regret where "a son wants to fulfil his filial piety but the parents are no longer there", it seemingly touches Dongdong's nerve. There is a moment of hesitation and he changes the topic right away to avoid succumbing to his sensitive area. Moreover, Xiaomei alerts him to the fact that his girlfriend has moved back home with her parents, and the messy state of his home should allure him back to the care of his mother.

Section I — Listening and Responding Part B

Question 2

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the issues raised in the texts and a sophisticated level of ability to synthesise and contrast them	
• Composes a coherent response which demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the texts	9–10
• Demonstrates a highly-developed understanding of context and audience	
• Demonstrates an excellent control of vocabulary and language structures	
• Demonstrates a good understanding of the main issues raised in the texts and synthesises and contrasts them in a lucid way	
• Composes an effective response with close reference to the texts	7–8
• Writes effectively for the context and audience	7-0
• Demonstrates an appropriate knowledge and understanding of language structures and vocabulary	
Coherently compares and contrasts information in the texts	
• Writes coherently and with some appropriate textual reference	5–6
Relates information to context and audience	3–0
• Writes using a range of language structures and vocabulary	
• Compares and contrasts some opinions, ideas and information in the texts	
• Demonstrates a limited ability to structure and sequence information and ideas	3–4
Demonstrates an awareness of context and audience	
• Demonstrates some understanding of the texts and the ability to compare and contrast information	1–2
• Shows some evidence of the ability to organise information	

Answers could include:

Candidates are expected to answer this question by discussing the effectiveness of the economic measures such as tier pricing to arouse people's awareness of water saving.

- Economic measures have been effective in some stages of water saving. For example, in some cities in China, many families have cut their water usage after the introduction of the tier pricing.
- However, in Australia some people like Wang Qiang and his neighbours waste a lot of water even though tier pricing is here. Wang Qiang, on the other hand, might cut down the usage of water if he is the one to pay the water rates, not his landlord.
- Xiao Lu tries to argue that applying economic measure is not a good way to educate people to save water. People should be conscious of the scarcity of water globally and it is important to raise everyone's awareness of water saving.

Section II — Reading and Responding Part A

Question 3 (a)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a perceptive understanding of the reasons why the villagers of Long Xi Cun come to the Environmental Bureau	3
• Demonstrates understanding of the reasons why the villagers come to the Environmental Bureau	2
Provides some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

People came to the Environmental Bureau to complain about the desperate situation of Long Xi Village:

- 1. The agricultural chemical factory destroyed the ecological environment and causes the extinction fish in the fish ponds and the withering of wheat.
- 2. The pollution of the agricultural chemical factory is detrimental to the health of the villagers, some died of cancer.
- 3. After complaining to the local council, no action has been taken. That is why the villagers have to come to the Environmental Bureau to lodge their complaints.

Question 3 (b)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates an excellent ability to analyse the way of portraying the character	
• Demonstrates a perceptive understanding of the way in which language is used	5
Responds with coherent references and clear language	
• Demonstrates a good ability to analyse the way of portraying the character	
• Demonstrates a good understanding of the way in which language is used	3–4
Responds with relevant textual references	
• Demonstrates some understanding of the way of portraying the character	2
Responds with limited textual references	2
Provides some relevant information	1

Answers could include:

- 1. Through the author's revelation in the interior monologue of Wu Tie Liang, it is shown that he is a sympathetic and understanding person, eg: "he believed that people must have had long-term unsolved problems, otherwise they would not have lodged their complaints with his office."
- 2. He cares for the efficiency of his bureau and is not superstitious. As he states, "it is not inappropriate to take the cinerary casket into the meeting room."
- 3. His kindness and compassion can be shown when he asked his subordinate to use his money to buy food for those people as soon as he knew they had not eaten their breakfast.
- 4. By comparing and contrasting the attitude of Mr Wu and Mr Fei, it is demonstrated that Mr Wu is a highly responsible government official, he really cares for the grievances of the villagers and he wants to address the issues immediately.
- 5. His frequent use of the polite remark "请" in his conversation with his subordinates and villagers shows that he is respectful of other people, even though he is their superior.
- 6. As Tian Jia fondly appraises him, "he is kind and compassionate".

Question 3 (c)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the criticism in the extract as well as Chapter One and Chapter Six	
Responds with relevant textual references	6–7
Responds in sophisticated language	
• Demonstrates a good understanding of the criticism in the extract as well as Chapter One and Chapter Six	4 5
Responds with textual references	4–5
Responds in clear language	
• Demonstrates some understanding of the criticism in the extract as well as Chapter One and Chapter Six	
Responds with some textual references	2–3
Responds in clear language with some mistakes in grammar	
Provides some relevant information	1

Answers could include:

Criticism of Society

Environment

- government officials such as Mr Fei only focus on the pursuit of economic growth instead of addressing the issues of pollution resulting from economic development
- the non-committal attitude of the government officials in addressing the pollution caused by the agricultural chemical factory costs the health and livelihood of the villagers in Longxi village
- the lack of planning gives rise to serious environmental problems. For example, the agricultural chemical factory is built next to the fish pond and farm land
- the government officials disregard the environmental awareness when burning pornographic books and videos in public

Society

- a lot of government officials are unsympathetic to the plight of the victims of environmental pollution or are apathetic to the chaotic situation of San Duo Xiang. As a result, anti-government protests are frequent
- bribery is a common practice among the government officials and people usually resort to bribery to advance their personal interests
- the immoral behaviour of the Peng Ci Gang illustrates the author's critique of the moral degradation of some of the people in society
- there is an influx of rural migrants into urban areas because peasants can barely eke out a living because of pollution and the usurping of farmland for economic development.

Section II — Reading and Responding Part A (continued)

Question 4

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a highly developed ability to analyse the statement	
• Demonstrates a coherent and sophisticated elaboration with appropriate textual reference	21–25
• Composes a concise text with highly developed and sophisticated control of vocabulary and syntax	
Demonstrates the ability to analyse the statement	
Composes an effective elaboration with appropriate textual reference	16-20
• Composes a concise text with well-developed command of vocabulary and syntax	10 20
• Demonstrates the ability to discuss the statement and identify the related issues	
• Supports the elaboration of the question with some appropriate textual reference	11–15
• Demonstrates a satisfactory command of language with a sound base of vocabulary and syntax	
Elaborates some ideas and information relevant to the statement	
• Attempts to compose an elaboration with reference to the text	6–10
• Uses a limited range of predictable vocabulary and language structures to express ideas	0 10
Identifies some ideas and information relevant to the statement	1–5

Answers could include:

Candidates are expected to discuss this statement with reference to both texts *Gua Sha* and *A City Without a Cafe*.

In this question, besides discussing "cultural differences may cause misunderstanding and conflict" with textual references, candidates should mention mutual respect and understanding among different ethnic groups is the ultimate means to resolve racial conflict and misunderstanding as reflected in the movie and the letter.

The answer could include the following points when comparing the two cultures:

Gua Sha:

- How Datong and Kunlan's different views on disciplining a child and expectations of friendship aggravate Datong's plight
- How Dadong's interpretation of filial piety leads to legal dispute

A City Without a Cafe:

• How Andrew's unwillingness to step out of his comfort zone (staying in groups of people from the same language and cultural background) to mingle with people of HK has contributed to his biased views of HK culture

Gua Sha:

- How westerners' viewing Gua Sha treatment gives rise to all the complications in the movie
- How Kunlan's attempt to understand Chinese culture through receiving Gua Sha treatment brings about reconciliation

A City Without a Cafe:

• His negative judgment of the style of living of HK people (they are always in a rush, there is a breakdown in communication among people etc) stems from how he views other cultures from his own perspective based on his own upbringing

Section II — Reading and Responding Part B

Question 5

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the issues raised in the text	
• Responds with a sophisticated level of ability to express personal opinions and ideas about the issues raised in the text	12 15
 Composes a coherent argument demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of the text 	13–15
• Demonstrates a highly-developed understanding of context and audience	
• Demonstrates an excellent control of vocabulary and language structures	
• Demonstrates a good understanding of the main issues in the text	
• Expresses lucid personal response to the issues raised in the text	
• Composes an effective argument with close reference to the text	10–12
• Writes effectively for the context and audience	10-12
• Demonstrates a good knowledge and understanding of language structures and vocabulary	
• Exchanges information in response to the opinions, ideas and information in the text	
• Writes coherently and with some appropriate textual reference	7–9
Relates information to context and audience	
Writes using appropriate language structures and vocabulary	
• Responds to some opinions, ideas and information in the text	
• Demonstrates a limited ability to structure and sequence information and ideas	4–6
• Demonstrates an awareness of context and audience	
Demonstrates some understanding of the text	1.2
• Shows some evidence of the ability to organise information	1–3

Answers could include:

Candidates are expected to express their opinions on the following issues raised in the text:

- whether it is advantageous/problematic for married couples to live with their parents
- whether the concept of 4 generations living together is outdated

Candidates must justify their arguments with textual references and their own opinions.

Section III — Writing in Chinese

Questions 6–7

Criteria	Marks
• Writes perceptively for a specified audience, context and purpose	
 Demonstrates a highly developed and sophisticated control of Chinese vocabulary and syntax 	21–25
 Demonstrates flair and originality in the selection, presentation and development of ideas 	
• Writes effectively for an audience, context and purpose	
 Demonstrates a well-developed command of Chinese with a comprehensive range of vocabulary and syntax 	16–20
• Demonstrates originality in the selection and presentation of ideas	
• Writes original and interesting text appropriate to audience, context and purpose	
• Demonstrates a satisfactory command of Chinese, with a sound base of vocabulary and syntax	11–15
• Demonstrates the ability to organise and express most ideas reasonably, but with a number of weaknesses in sequencing, linking and grammar	
• Demonstrates an awareness of audience and context using only a narrow range of information and ideas	
• Uses a limited range of predictable vocabulary and language structures to express ideas	6–10
Attempts to sequence and link ideas	
• Communicates a limited range of ideas with little attempt to organise and sequence material	1–5

Chinese Background Speakers 2014 HSC Examination Mapping Grid

Section I — Listening and Responding

Part A

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
1 (a)	2	Youth culture (The impact on young people of changes in traditional social values) — conversation	H3.1, H3.2
1 (b)	2	Youth culture (The impact on young people of changes in traditional social values) — conversation	НЗ.1, НЗ.2, НЗ.3
1 (c)	6	Youth culture (The impact on young people of changes in traditional social values) — conversation	H3.2, H3.3, H3.7

Section I — Listening and Responding Part B

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
2	10	Environmental issue — report/conversation	H2.1, H2.3, H3.2, H3.4, H3.5

Section II — Reading and Responding Part A

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
3 (a)	3	Environmental Bureau (environment issues)	H3.1, H3.2
3 (b)	5	Environmental Bureau (environment issues)	H3.1, H3.2, h3.3, H3.7, H4.1
3 (c)	7	Environmental Bureau (environment issues)	H3.1, H3.2, H3.3, H3.6, H3.7
4	25	<i>The Gua Sha Treatment / A City Without a Cafe</i> (Chinese community overseas – adapting to new cultures, the maintenance of Chinese culture in non-Chinese culture context)	H3.1, H3.2, (H3.3), (H3.4), H3.7, H3.8, (H4.1)

Section II — Reading and Responding Part B

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
5	15	Individual and the community (the role of family and marriage in contemporary society) — article	H2.1, H2.4, H3.8

Section III — Writing in Chinese

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
6	25	Global issue (the impact of international influence on Chinese-speaking countries / economic growth and its impact) — speech	H2.1, H2.2, H2.3, H2.4, (H4.2)
7	25	Individual and community (the role of individual in today's society) — speech	H2.2, H2.3, H2.4, (H4.2)