

Guidance on the use of past paper questions for Higher Mandarin (Simplified and Traditional) and Cantonese

The Curriculum for Excellence Higher Courses draw on the strengths of popular areas of study from Higher with the introduction of some new content. The purpose of this support document is to help centres and departments to identify suitable past paper questions/items that could be used, or possibly amended, to support learners in their preparation for sitting question papers (exams) as part of the Higher Course assessment. The advice in this document reflects questions selected from 2011 to 2013 [past papers](#). If you click on the highlighted links in the columns below, this will take you to the relevant past paper.

When utilising any past paper questions, you need to take into account the following:

- ◆ You must select questions that provide the learners with the same level of challenge as those in the Higher Specimen Question Paper.
- ◆ You may be able to use questions as published or with amendments as suggested in the columns below.
- ◆ You must use questions that adhere to the Higher General Marking Principles and reflect the form of detailed Marking Instructions as published in the Higher Specimen Question Paper.

If any change to a question/items is necessary, you must ensure that:

- ◆ the style and structure matches the Specimen Question Paper for Higher
- ◆ marking of the learner's response to the question adheres to the General Marking Principles in the Higher Specimen Question Paper
- ◆ Marking Instructions are amended to reflect the style of the Higher detailed Marking Instructions

The details below for the Higher should be read in conjunction with the relevant:

Mandatory documentation:

- ◆ Course Specification
- ◆ Unit Specifications
- ◆ Course Assessment Specification

Advice and guidance:

- ◆ Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment:

- ◆ Question Paper Component:
 - general assessment information
 - general marking principles and detailed marking instructions

Related Information as provided in the relevant N5–Higher Course Comparison Document.

Key for the section below:

C — amend context as required

S — amend source as required

St — amend question style

Str — amend structure of the question

Not all topic/areas of study will appear every year due to the sampling techniques used in producing question papers.

<p>Information from the Course Assessment Specification</p> <p>Each Section of the question paper will be made up of restricted/extended response questions. Questions will sample the knowledge and understanding and apply skills described in the Further mandatory information on Course coverage section.</p>	<p>The columns below identify additional support questions from Higher Past Papers 2011 to 2013.</p>		
	<p>Higher</p>		
	<p>Use question as published</p>	<p>Amend question context/source</p>	<p>Amend question style/structure</p>
<p>Paper 1 — Section A — Reading</p>			
<p>Learners will read one text of between 700 and 800 Chinese characters. The text will be taken from predominantly one of the contexts: society, learning, employability or culture and will be followed by questions in English, including one 2-mark open question which will require learners to identify the overall purpose of the text, totalling 20 marks. There will also be a section of the text to be translated into English for 10 marks. Learners may use a dictionary.</p>	<p>2011 Cantonese 2011 Mandarin (Simplified) 2011 Mandarin (Traditional) P1 Q1 (a), (b), (c) Q2 (b) Q3 (a), (b), (c), (d) Q4 (a), (b), (c) Q5</p> <p>2012 Cantonese 2012 Mandarin (Simplified) 2012 Mandarin (Traditional) P1 Q1 (b), (c) Q2 (a), (b) Q3 (a), (b) Q4 (a), (b) Q5</p> <p>2013 Cantonese 2013 Mandarin (Simplified) 2013 Mandarin (Traditional) P1 Q1 (a), (b)</p>	<p>2012 Cantonese 2012 Mandarin (Simplified) 2012 Mandarin (Traditional) P1 Q1 (a) — C/S</p>	<p>2011 Cantonese 2011 Mandarin (Simplified) 2011 Mandarin (Traditional) P1 Q2 (a) — St</p> <p>2012 Cantonese 2012 Mandarin (Simplified) 2012 Mandarin (Traditional) P1 Q3 (c) — St</p> <p>2013 Cantonese 2013 Mandarin (Simplified) 2013 Mandarin (Traditional) P1 Q3 (b) — St/Str</p>

	Q2 (a), (b), (c), (d) Q3 (a) Q4 (a), (b) Q5 (a), (b), (c) Q6 Q7		
Paper 1 — Section B — Directed Writing			
Learners will choose between two scenarios, based on the contexts not sampled in the reading and listening sections. They must address four bullet points from one of the chosen stimuli, writing between 150 and 200 characters. The first three bullets will be in the past tense and the final bullet will be in another tense. The directed writing task will be worth 10 marks. Learners may use a dictionary.	This topic is treated slightly differently in the new Higher Course, therefore there are no equivalent questions.		
Paper 2 — Section A — Listening			
Learners will listen to one monologue, and respond to questions worth 8 marks and one conversation, with questions worth 12 marks. The texts will be linked thematically and will be based on the context, which was not sampled in the reading text and directed writing options. The last question on the monologue will be a supported question on the overall purpose of the text. Learners may use a dictionary.	2011 Cantonese 2011 Mandarin (Simplified) 2011 Mandarin (Traditional) P2 Q1, Q3, Q4, Q5, Q6, Q7 Q8 (a), (b) Q9 (a), (b) Q10 2012 Cantonese 2012 Mandarin (Simplified) 2012 Mandarin (Traditional) P2 Q1 (a) Q2 Q3 Q4 (a), (b)	2011 Cantonese 2011 Mandarin (Simplified) 2011 Mandarin (Traditional) P2 Q11 — C	2012 Cantonese 2012 Mandarin (Simplified) 2012 Mandarin (Traditional) P2 Q1 (b) — St 2013 Cantonese 2013 Mandarin (Simplified) 2013 Mandarin (Traditional) P2 Q3 — St P2 Q4 — St P2 Q5 (a) — St P2 Q8 (b) — St

	<p>Q5 (a), (b) Q6 Q7 (a), (b)</p> <p>2013 Cantonese 2013 Mandarin (Simplified) 2013 Mandarin (Traditional)</p> <p>P2 Q1, Q2 Q5 (b) Q6, Q7 Q8 (a)</p>		
Paper 2 – Section B – Listening			
<p>Learners will produce one written text in response to a stimulus based on the theme in the listening section. A limited number of questions will be set with learners writing between 150 and 200 characters. Learners may use a dictionary.</p>		<p>This topic is treated slightly differently in the new Higher Course (the number of the characters); therefore there are no equivalent questions.</p>	
Resources			
<p>SQA past papers www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm</p>		<p>Additional Higher assessment support material is available here:</p> <p>Education Scotland www.educationscotland.gov.uk/</p> <p>Glow www.educationscotland.gov.uk/usingglowandict/</p> <p>Glow Log-in https://secure.glowscotland.org.uk/login/login.htm</p>	