

X256/12/01

NATIONAL TUESDAY, 29 MAY
QUALIFICATIONS 9.00 AM – 11.10 AM
2012

MANDARIN
(SIMPLIFIED)
HIGHER
Reading and Directed Writing

45 marks are allocated to this paper. The value attached to each question is shown after each question.

You may use a Chinese dictionary.



SECTION I—READING

Read the entire article carefully and then answer **in English** the questions which follow.

A Chinese website reports on Brompton Folding Bikes, which are becoming more and more popular in London.

伦敦街头的折叠自行车

环保之风让伦敦街头的折叠自行车成为一道流行“风景线”，其中最有名的是布隆普顿（Brompton）折叠自行车。

如今，这样的折叠自行车在上班族里越来越流行。不少曾经穿着西服的上班族现在也穿上反光的外套，带着头盔，踩上轻盈的布隆普顿自行车。这样他们可以很轻松地将这种自行车折叠起来，然后拿着自行车和大家挤火车或地铁。

安德鲁·里奇（Andrew Ritchie）

布隆普顿的发明者安德鲁·里奇曾获得爱丁堡公爵菲利普亲王（Prince Philip）颁发的设计大奖，对里奇 1979 年的发明和他一生不断追求创新表示嘉奖。里奇说，他现在考虑的是怎样使得布隆普顿更轻巧，更舒适。

新难题

不过，里奇不能控制的却是伦敦公共交通越来越拥挤的现实。很多乘坐火车、地铁的人们发现，如今带着折叠自行车的人越来越多，即便再小巧，也还是占据了不少空间，使本来就拥挤的车厢更加拥挤了。

但是，使用自行车还是比开车便宜得多。布隆普顿的拥有者们总是骄傲地说，即便他们让车厢变得更拥挤，但他们选择了最环保的交通方式，减少了开车造成的污染，这样车厢拥挤，换来的环保却是值得的！

但一些人对此表示反对，他们指出，很多骑折叠自行车的人是先开着自己的汽车到车站，然后带着自行车上火车，下车后才骑很短一段路，这怎么能叫环保呢？而且，无论再怎么环保，也不能让乘客连站的地方都没有。

销量不断上升

尽管争论不断，但一个事实是，折叠自行车的销量在不断上升，已经到了面临供不应求的局面。布隆普顿公司说，这主要是得利于他们的技术改进，折叠过程只需 7 至 15 秒就可完成，而且速度不慢。

如今在城市里上班的人们都没时间锻炼身体，上下班骑车成了锻炼的一个途径，再加上，汽车开进伦敦市中心需要交很昂贵的“进城费”，这些都让布隆普顿的折叠自行车成为了上班族的最佳选择。

QUESTIONS

Marks

1. Folding bikes are becoming more and more popular with London's workers. (lines 1–6)
 - (a) Why have folding bikes become such a feature on the streets of London? 1
 - (b) What do many people wear when they go to work on these bikes? 1
 - (c) What explains the popularity of the bikes? 2
 2. Andrew Ritchie is the inventor of Brompton Folding Bikes. (lines 7–10)
 - (a) Why did the Duke of Edinburgh honour Andrew Ritchie? 2
 - (b) What improvements does Mr Ritchie intend making to Brompton Bikes? 2
 3. There have been some difficulties with these new bikes. (lines 11–17)
 - (a) What objections do people who use public transport have to them? 3
 - (b) What comparison is made with car use? 1
 - (c) What do the owners of Brompton Bikes say in their favour? Mention **three** things. 3
 4. The sale of folding bikes is increasing. (lines 21–27)
 - (a) What are the reasons for this increase in popularity? 3
 - (b) Why have these bikes become the best option for people working in the city centre according to the article? 2

(20)
 5. Translate into English:
他们指出……连站的地方都没有。 (lines 18–20) 10
- (30)**

[Turn over for SECTION II on *Page four*

SECTION II—DIRECTED WRITING

Marks

During the summer holidays last year, you had the opportunity to spend three weeks at a school in Shanghai as part of an exchange programme.

On your return to school in Scotland, your teacher has asked you to write a report about your trip **in Chinese (Simplified)** for your class.

You must include the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- when you arrived there **and** who met you on your arrival
- where you stayed **and** what you thought of your accommodation
- what activities the school organised for you and the other exchange pupils
- what you liked most about the visit
- what you did in the evening
- why you think the experience was useful for you.

Your report should be 180–250 characters in length.

Marks will be deducted for any area of information that is omitted.

(15)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Section One—Article relating to Brompton Folding Bicycles. Reproduced by kind permission of Andrew Ritchie—Brompton Bicycle Ltd.

2012 Mandarin (Simplified) Higher Reading and Directed Writing

Word List

Section I

反光	reflective
轻盈	light
爱丁堡公爵	the Duke of Edinburgh
颁发	to award/issue/give out
嘉奖	commendation
拥有者	owner
争论	to debate
供不应求	demand exceeds supply/supply falls short of demand
途径	way/channel

[*END OF WORD LIST*]

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FOR OFFICIAL USE

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Examiner's Marks	
A	
B	

Total Mark

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NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS 2012

**MANDARIN
(SIMPLIFIED)
HIGHER
Listening/Writing**



TUESDAY, 29 MAY
1.00 PM – 2.20 PM

X256/12/02

Fill in these boxes and read what is printed below.

Full name of centre

Town

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Forename(s)

Surname

Number of seat

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Date of birth

Day

Month

Year

Scottish candidate number

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Do not open this paper until told to do so.

Answer Section A **in English** and Section B **in Chinese (Simplified)**.

Section A

Listen carefully to the recording with a view to answering, **in English**, the questions printed in this answer book. Write your answers **clearly and legibly** in the spaces provided after each question.

You will have 2 minutes to study the questions before hearing the dialogue for the first time.

The dialogue will be played **twice**, with an interval of 2 minutes between the two playings.

You may make notes at any time but only in this answer book. **Score out any notes before you hand in the book.**

Move on to Section B when you have completed Section A: you will **not** be told when to do this.

Section B

Do not write your response in this book: **use the booklet provided.**

You will be told to insert the booklet inside this book before handing in your work.

You may consult a Chinese dictionary at any time during **both** sections.

Before leaving the examination room you must give this book to the Invigilator. If you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.

Use blue or black ink.



Section A

Lipin and Guo'an, two Chinese students at university in Britain, are talking about the lifestyles and debts of students in the UK.

1. (a) How much money does Guo'an's classmate owe?

1

(b) Why did this debt mount up? Mention any **two** things.

2

2. According to Lipin, students spend too much money. Give **three** examples of what they spend their money on.

3

3. Guo'an thinks some students waste their money. Give **three** examples he mentions.

3



Marks

4. When students go home for holidays, local businesses suffer.

(a) Give **two** examples of this.

2

(b) What is the best time for these businesses?

1

5. (a) Why do some students have greater debts than others?

2

(b) Why do some students have less time to study?

1

6. Lipin refers to a news report. Why are more and more students dropping out of university?

2



Marks

7. (a) What might cause more students to drop out in the future?

1

(b) Guo'an gives further reasons why university students drop out. What are they?

2

(20)



Section B

Marks

挣钱对学生来说还是很重要的。你觉得学生打工，好处是什么？如果不好，为什么？

写 150–180 个汉字，说说你的观点。

10

(30)

Earning money is important for students. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a part-time job?

Write 150–180 characters, giving your opinions in Chinese (Simplified).

USE THE BOOKLET PROVIDED FOR YOUR ANSWER TO SECTION B

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]



ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ANSWERS

DO NOT
WRITE IN
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MARGIN

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ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR ANSWERS

DO NOT
WRITE IN
THIS
MARGIN

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DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE



X256/12/12

NATIONAL TUESDAY, 29 MAY
QUALIFICATIONS 1.00 PM – 2.20 PM
2012

MANDARIN
(SIMPLIFIED)
HIGHER
Listening Transcript

This paper must not be seen by any candidate.

The material overleaf is provided for use in an emergency only (eg the recording or equipment proving faulty) or where permission has been given in advance by SQA for the material to be read to candidates with additional support needs. The material must be read exactly as printed.



Instructions to reader(s):

The dialogue below should be read in approximately 6 minutes. On completion of the first reading, pause for two minutes, then read the dialogue a second time.

Candidates have two minutes to study the questions before the transcript is read.

Lipin and Guo'an, two Chinese students at university in Britain, are talking about the lifestyles and debts of students in the UK.

我有一个英国朋友告诉我，他大学毕业以后，得还很多钱给银行。

是啊！我的一个同学也说，她大学毕业以后，得还三万英镑给银行。这些钱是她大学四年里的学费、住宿费，还有生活费。

我听说，除了学费、住宿费和生活费，很多人因为平常花太多钱，所以才会欠银行那么多钱。比如说，大部分的学生会去比较便宜的超市买菜。不过，有些人却到比较高档、比较贵的超市买菜。对他们来说，钱不是问题，一个星期上饭馆两、三次，常常打电话叫外卖，根本很少做饭。

对啊！我有些同学，他们的房间里有自己的电视、用的是高级的手机，甚至一个人有好几台手提电脑。出门不愿挤公共汽车，而是坐出租车，这对我们这些没有收入的学生来说，实在是太浪费了。

说到出租车，听我们城里的出租车司机说，只要大学一放假，他们就没有生意了，因为晚上没有学生去酒吧了。咖啡馆和电影院也是一样，学生放假了，咖啡馆午餐的生意就差很多。电影院里一半的位置都空着。不过，到了秋天，学生们回来上学的时候，生意就好多了。

其实，这些学生，有的家里很富裕，父母也愿意帮助孩子。还有些学生，家里也不是很富有，但是因为有时想跟别的同学作比较，打肿脸充胖子，到后来，钱就越欠越多。当然，这其中也有些同学，因为父母没有办法帮助他们，他们平时得打工，结果，不但很累，学习的时间也减少了。

是啊！我看新闻报道说，现在大学里，退学的学生越来越多了。这些退学的学生，有很多是工人阶级的孩子，因为没有足够的钱，常常大学一年级没念完，就退学了。我觉得大学收学费，对这些学生来说最不公平了！

我还听说，大学的学费可能还会再上涨，如果学费变得更高，那么将来一定会有更多学生退学。不过，我也听说大学里，退学的学生越来越多，是因为大学的老师和教授们，他们教书教得太差了，所以学生没办法学好。另外，还有一个原因是，现在大学的班级越来越大，每个班的人数都太多了，学习效果当然会受影响。

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]