



CHINESE: SECOND LANGUAGE

ATAR course examination 2023

Written marking key

Marking keys are an explicit statement about what the examining panel expect of candidates when they respond to particular examination items. They help ensure a consistent interpretation of the criteria that guide the awarding of marks.

Section One
Response: Listening

30% (45 Marks)

Text 1: The environment**Question 1** (1 mark)

For whom is the announcement intended?

Description	Marks
Year 12 students	1
Total	1

Question 2 (2 marks)

Describe what is happening this Saturday.

Description	Marks
(Year 12 students are) planting trees	1
in the community/near the school	1
Total	2

Question 3 (3 marks)

Explain what the benefits of this event could be.

Description	Marks
there will be more than two hundred trees (planted)	1
trees will (not only) purify/clean the air	1
(but they will also) make the environment (we live in) more and more beautiful	1
Total	3

Text 2: Relationships

Question 4

(3 marks)

Refer to the conversation and circle to indicate whether each statement is True or False.

	Statement	Answer	Marks
A	Yichen's birthday is in two weeks.	True	1
B	Yichen is inviting Dawei and Xiaoming to his birthday party.	True	1
C	The female speaker has not met Dawei or Xiaoming before.	False	1
Total			3

Question 5

(3 marks)

Explain how Yichen and Dawei became friends.

Description	Marks
they met while working (doing a part-time job) in a coffee shop	1
they often chatted (while working)	1
they have a lot of the same interests/share many of the same interests (so that's why they quickly became friends)	1
Total	3

Question 6

(2 marks)

Outline what problem may arise at Yichen's party and why?

Description	Marks
Dawei and Xiaoming might/could argue/quarrel/fight	1
because they sometimes (quarrel/fight/argue) did at Lili's party	1
Total	2

Text 3: Reflecting on my life and planning my future**Question 7****(2 marks)**

Identify why Xiaohong is congratulating Xiaoming.

Description	Marks
Xiaoming got (admitted/accepted) into	1
to his ideal university/to the university he wanted	1
Total	2

Question 8**(4 marks)**

According to Xiaohong, describe what would be a 'pity' and why?

Description	Marks
if Xiaoming doesn't go to (that) university	1
because he has always liked it and	1
(not only does he think that) the (teaching) level/quality/standard is high	1
(he also thinks that it) has good facilities	1
Total	4

Question 9**(3 marks)**

Explain what Xiaohong suggests Xiaoming do and why?

Description	Marks
(suggests) he goes to university and does (part-time) work	1
at the same time	1
(that way, Xiaoming can) travel during (the university) holidays	1
Total	3

Text 4: Communicating in a modern world**Question 10****(2 marks)**

Where was Chunhua and what was she doing?

Description	Marks
(she was in the) library	1
video chatting/calling with her (Australian) friend	1
Total	2

Question 11**(2 marks)**

Outline the reasons why Chunhua did not attend or participate in the events.

Description	Marks
Chunhua did not see the Facebook posts	1
or check/read her emails	1
Total	2

Question 12**(6 marks)**

Recount what Chunhua says about social media.

Description	Marks
(that it is not only) a waste of time	1
(but also) boring	1
(if it's not/either) it's a food photo	1
it's/or a selfie	1
she doesn't have time to look	1
(let alone) comment on everything	1
Total	6

Text 5: Current issues

Part (i)

Question 13

(2 marks)

Describe what happened to Xiaoming.

Description	Marks
he was caught smoking in the toilet	1
by the teacher	1
Total	2

Question 14

(1 mark)

State what is becoming more and more popular.

Description	Marks
E/electronic cigarettes/vaping	1
Total	1

Question 15

(2 marks)

Identify the **two** reasons why Xiaoming may have done what he did.

Description	Marks
instigated/urged/egged on/encouraged by his friends/peers	1
(quarrels with his girlfriend, so) when in a bad mood/is sad/upset he smokes	1
Total	2

Part (ii)

Question 16

(1 mark)

Which **one** of the following statements does Susan **not** mention?

A	smoking does not solve the problem
B	smoking causes cancer
C	smoking is bad for your health
D	second-hand smoking affects those around you

Description	Marks
Answer: B	1
Total	1

Question 17

(4 marks)

Explain what Zhangjie is **not** looking forward to and why?

Description	Marks
(this year's) high school graduation	1
(because many Year 12 students) are planning (post-graduation) parties	1
(where they just) get drunk/drink a lot/excessively drink (then/and) make trouble	1
and (some will even) drink and drive	1
Total	4

Question 18

(2 marks)

Outline what Susan and Zhangjie plan to do to in order to remind students of the dangers of drinking and smoking.

Description	Marks
draw/do/make up (some promotional) posters/flyers/drawings/paintings	1
and put/post them on social media	1
Total	2

Section Two

Response: Viewing and reading

40% (48 Marks)

Text 6: Celebrations and traditions

Question 19

(1 mark)

Identify why the term 'celebrate Spring Festival' is not used in Singapore.

Description	Marks
it is summer all year round	1
Total	1

Question 20

(2 marks)

Outline why the writer thinks that this year's celebration will be special.

Description	Marks
this is the first time	1
(they will be) celebrating/celebrated the New Year abroad/overseas	1
Total	2

Question 21

(3 marks)

Describe the atmosphere in Singapore's Chinatown.

Description	Marks
amazing/great/excellent/awesome	1
colourful lanterns (were hung) everywhere	1
and the shops (on the street) were all decorated in red	1
Total	3

Question 22

(3 marks)

Refer to the text and circle to indicate whether each statement is True or False.

	Statement	Answer	Marks
A	You can buy Spring Festival couplets, New Year decorations and dragon costumes in Chinatown shops.	False	1
B	At lunch, the writer and their family watched a dragon dance in which more than ten people danced a dragon together.	True	1
C	Because the writer has been living in an urban area since they were little, they have seen a live dragon dance performance before.	False	1
Total			3

Question 23

(2 marks)

According to the text, what is the significance of a dragon in Chinese culture?

Description	Marks
the Chinese (often say that they) are descendants of the dragon	1
(the dragon/it) has a very important symbolic status (in the hearts of the Chinese)	1
Total	2

Text 7: Reflecting on my life and planning my future**Question 24****(2 marks)**

Identify what the members of Dawei's class were asked to do in their last Chinese lesson for Year 12.

Description	Marks
Summarise/reflect on/recount their study and life (for this year/for Year 12)	1
write down (a piece of) advice/suggestions for Year 11 students	1
Total	2

Question 25**(2 marks)**

What advice did the majority of students provide and why?

Description	Marks
study hard	1
not long until they sit exams/high school Year 12 exams/university entrance exams	1
Total	2

Question 26**(4 marks)**

Apart from helping others, list **four** benefits of participating in voluntary activities.

Description	Marks
Any four of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help us find our self-worth/self-value • can meet like-minded friends • develop long-term friendships • cultivate/develop our teamwork skills • cultivate/develop (interpersonal) communication skills 	1–4
Total	4

Question 27**(3 marks)**

Identify the second suggestion and explain why it is important.

Description	Marks
(important to develop) the ability to live independently/cultivate/develop independence	1
if you don't learn this early, it will be/if you do learn this early	1
difficult/hard to adjust/adapt to university/it will be easier to adapt to university	1
Total	3

Question 28**(3 marks)**

State **three** examples of how students can achieve the second suggestion.

Description	Marks
helping (parents) with chores/housework	1
learn how to cook	1
work (part time) to earn money	1
Total	3

Text 8: Current issues

Question 29

(2 marks)

State what Xiaohong can now do on social media.

Description	Marks
she can write blogs and	1
put/post (some) photos of her artwork (on social media)	1
Total	2

Question 30

(3 marks)

List **three** ways in which Dan has benefited from social media.

Description	Marks
Any three of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • helped his social life • learned new ways to study • gained new friendships/made new friends • grades/academic results/exam results improved • mood much better • gains an understanding/learns about different lives/culture 	1–3
Total	3

Question 31

(3 marks)

Explain Liyong's use of social media two years ago.

Description	Marks
he started to post (some) funny videos of his pets (on social media)	1
this attracted (the attention of) other students/students to follow	1
and allowed him to make (many) new friends	1
Total	3

Question 32

(3 marks)

Explain what is happening to Liyong now.

Description	Marks
he is gaining (more and) more followers/attention from all over the world	1
small companies/businesses are using his videos	1
he has started to earn (some) income/money	1
Total	3

Text 9: Communicating in a modern world

Question 33

(2 marks)

What has the writer noticed recently when young people communicate with others?

Description	Marks
(their children and other young people/teens) don't look others in the face	1
or concentrate/pay attention (to each other) at all	1
Total	2

Question 34

(3 marks)

Complete the following sentences:

Description	Marks	
Don't let children	play with mobile phones or computers all the time.	1
While it may be difficult at first, as some children	(may) already be addicted,	1
Your child will benefit,	if you persist/persevere.	1
Total	3	

Question 35

(4 marks)

Identify what makes the writer feel both frustrated and worried and explain why they feel this way.

Description	Marks
seeing young people use electronic devices	1
while eating out	1
because eating together should be a time to relax	1
and a time to get to know/understand each other/strengthen relationships	1
Total	4

Question 36

(3 marks)

(a) According to the writer, what shouldn't parents do?

(1 mark)

Description	Marks
(they shouldn't) spend too much time on their mobile/phone	1
Total	1

(b) Apart from using their family time better, what else should parents do?

(2 marks)

Description	Marks
(they should) be a good role model	1
(and play a/an) positive/active part in their child's/children's life	1
Total	2

Section Three

Written communication

30% (30 Marks)

Part A: Stimulus response

12% (12 Marks)

Question 37

(12 marks)

Your friend forwarded this image to you via text message and expressed their concern for the environmental issue captured in the image.

In your reply text message:

- describe the issue depicted in the picture
- explain **one** possible cause for this issue
- suggest **one** solution to combat this issue.

Criteria	Marks
Content	
Information provided is highly relevant and elaborated. Content relates to the information in the stimulus and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a description of the issue • an explanation of one cause • a suggestion of one solution. 	4
Provides relevant content, mostly with elaboration	3
Provides some relevant and basic content	2
Provides limited content that is relevant to the topic	1
Content has no relevance to the question	0
Subtotal	4
Range of vocabulary and grammar	
Uses a wide range of vocabulary and grammar with use of some complex sentence structures	3
Uses a range of vocabulary and sentence structures	2
Uses a limited range of vocabulary and sentence structures	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	3
Accuracy of language use	
Uses language with a high level of accuracy. Word order is correct and vocabulary is appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are accurately written	3
Uses language with a good level of accuracy. Word order is mostly correct. Vocabulary is mostly appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are generally accurately written	2
Uses language with some accuracy. Word order and vocabulary is occasionally inaccurate, and inaccuracies sometimes affect meaning and flow. Chinese characters are often written with errors however comprehension is not difficult	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	3
Conventions of language and text	
Uses all the key conventions of a message and informal register is consistently applied. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • starts with the name of the recipient, followed by a colon • ends with a salutation. 	2
Uses some of the conventions of a message	1
Does not observe the conventions of a message	0
Subtotal	2
Total	12

Part B: Extended response

18% (18 Marks)

Question 38

(18 marks)

One of your close friends is leaving your school. You have been asked to give a farewell speech for this friend. In your speech, describe them as a person, their achievements and explain why they will be missed.

Criteria	Marks
Content	
Provides highly relevant content and elaborated content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> describes the person's background/personality describes the person's achievements explains why they will be missed. 	4
Provides relevant content, mostly with elaboration	3
Provides some relevant and basic content	2
Provides limited content that is relevant to the topic	1
Content has no relevance to the question	0
Subtotal	4
Range of grammar	
Uses a wide range of grammar and complex sentence structures	4
Uses a good range of grammar and sentence structures	3
Uses some grammar and sentence structures	2
Uses a limited range of sentence structures	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Range of vocabulary	
Uses a wide range of vocabulary relevant to the content	4
Uses a good range of vocabulary mostly relevant to the content	3
Uses a limited range of vocabulary with some relevance to the content	2
Uses repetitive, basic vocabulary with limited relevance to the content	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Accuracy of language use	
Uses language with a high level of accuracy. Word order is correct and vocabulary is appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are accurately written	4
Uses language with a good level of accuracy. Word order is mostly correct. Vocabulary is mostly appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are generally accurately written	3
Uses language with some accuracy. Word order and vocabulary is occasionally inaccurate, and inaccuracies sometimes affect meaning and flow. Chinese characters are often written with errors, however comprehension is not difficult	2
Language use is mostly inaccurate. Word order and vocabulary is mostly inaccurate, and inaccuracies often affect meaning and flow. Chinese characters are often written with errors making comprehension difficult	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Conventions of language and text	
Uses all the key conventions of a speech and appropriate register to address the purpose of writing. Essential features of a speech are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> formal language salutation/reference to the target audience paragraphs indented logical sequence of information closing remark name at the end right aligned (his/her role below). 	2
Uses some of the conventions of a speech	1
Does not observe the conventions of a speech	0
Subtotal	2
Total	18

Question 39

(18 marks)

Many Year 12 students have dealt with peer pressure during their time at school. Most have experienced the pressure of friendly competition. Write an article describing a common peer pressure that teenagers around the world face today and provide **two** suggestions as to how they could deal with it.

Criteria	Marks
Content	
Provides highly relevant content and elaborated content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> describes a common peer pressure provides two suggestions on how to deal with this kind of pressure. 	4
Provides relevant content, mostly with elaboration	3
Provides some relevant and basic content	2
Provides limited content that is relevant to the topic	1
Content has no relevance to the question	0
Subtotal	4
Range of grammar	
Uses a wide range of grammar and complex sentence structures	4
Uses a good range of grammar and sentence structures	3
Uses some grammar and sentence structures	2
Uses a limited range of sentence structures	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Range of vocabulary	
Uses a wide range of vocabulary relevant to the content	4
Uses a good range of vocabulary mostly relevant to the content	3
Uses a limited range of vocabulary with some relevance to the content	2
Uses repetitive, basic vocabulary with limited relevance to the content	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Accuracy of language use	
Uses language with a high level of accuracy. Word order is correct and vocabulary is appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are accurately written	4
Uses language with a good level of accuracy. Word order is mostly correct. Vocabulary is mostly appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are generally accurately written	3
Uses language with some accuracy. Word order and vocabulary is occasionally inaccurate, and inaccuracies sometimes affect meaning and flow. Chinese characters are often written with errors, however comprehension is not difficult	2
Language use is mostly inaccurate. Word order and vocabulary is mostly inaccurate, and inaccuracies often affect meaning and flow. Chinese characters are often written with errors making comprehension difficult	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Conventions of language and text	
Uses all the key conventions of an article and appropriate register to address the purpose of writing. Essential features of an article are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> formal language language is descriptive, factual, judgemental and/or persuasive structure: introduction, body and conclusion paragraphs indented a title that indicates the content. 	2
Uses some of the conventions of an article	1
Does not observe the conventions of an article	0
Subtotal	2
Total	18

Question 40

(18 marks)

Your Chinese friend Li Li (李丽) is going to visit you in Perth during the Mid-Autumn Festival. You understand how important the Festival is to Chinese people and you don't want Li Li to miss out. Write an email to her and explain what you have planned, so that she can celebrate the Festival in Perth.

Criteria	Marks
Content	
Provides highly relevant content and elaborated content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • makes reference to Li Li's visit during the Mid-Autumn Festival • explains what is planned so she can celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival in Perth. 	4
Provides relevant content, mostly with elaboration	3
Provides some relevant and basic content	2
Provides limited content that is relevant to the topic	1
Content has no relevance to the question	0
Subtotal	4
Range of grammar	
Uses a wide range of grammar and complex sentence structures	4
Uses a good range of grammar and sentence structures	3
Uses some grammar and sentence structures	2
Uses a limited range of sentence structures	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Range of vocabulary	
Uses a wide range of vocabulary relevant to the content	4
Uses a good range of vocabulary mostly relevant to the content	3
Uses a limited range of vocabulary with some relevance to the content	2
Uses repetitive, basic vocabulary with limited relevance to the content	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Accuracy of language use	
Uses language with a high level of accuracy. Word order is correct and vocabulary is appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are accurately written	4
Uses language with a good level of accuracy. Word order is mostly correct. Vocabulary is mostly appropriate to context. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow. Chinese characters are generally accurately written	3
Uses language with some accuracy. Word order and vocabulary is occasionally inaccurate, and inaccuracies sometimes affect meaning and flow. Chinese characters are often written with errors, however comprehension is not difficult	2
Language use is mostly inaccurate. Word order and vocabulary is mostly inaccurate, and inaccuracies often affect meaning and flow. Chinese characters are often written with errors making comprehension difficult	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Conventions of language and text	
Uses all the key conventions of an email and informal register is consistently applied. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • starts with the name of the recipient, followed by a colon • each new paragraph is indented • ends with a salutation, followed by the name of the writer both are aligned to the left. 	2
Uses some of the conventions of an email	1
Does not observe the conventions of an email	0
Subtotal	2
Total	18

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Question 37

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