

Overview

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Chinese (spoken Mandarin) consists of two externally-examined papers assessing listening, reading and writing and a speaking assessment. The speaking assessment is externally set and conducted by a teacher examiner. The assessment will be available in traditional and simplified characters. All questions and texts are printed twice, once with texts using traditional/full characters and once with texts in simplified characters. Students will complete their speaking assessment in April/May and all other assessments in May/June.

Awarding Organisation:
Edexcel

Minimum course requirements:
GCSE Grade 5+ in Mandarin (Higher Tier)

More information:
Mrs W Huang

Curriculum and assessment

TOPICS

1. Changes in contemporary Chinese society
2. Chinese culture
3. Evolving Chinese Society
4. The impact of reform and opening up in 1978 on China

ASSESSMENT

The Chinese culture paper consists of Chinese history, film and literature.

Paper 1 – Listening, reading and translation (40%)

Paper 2 – Written response to works and translation (30%)

Paper 3 – Speaking (30%)

Qualification aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- Enhance their linguistic skills and promote and develop their capacity for critical thinking on the basis of their knowledge and understanding of the language, culture and society of the country or countries where the language is spoken
- Develop control of the language system to convey meaning, using spoken and written skills, including an extended range of vocabulary, for both practical and intellectual purposes as increasingly confident, accurate and independent users of the language
- Develop their ability to interact effectively with users of the language in speech and in writing, including through online media
- Develop language learning skills and strategies, including communication strategies to sustain communication and build fluency and confidence
- Engage critically with intellectually stimulating texts, films and other materials in the original language, developing an appreciation of sophisticated and creative uses of the language and understanding them within their cultural and social context
- Develop knowledge about matters central to the society and culture, past and present, of the country or countries where the language is spoken
- Mediate between cultures and between speakers of the language and speakers of English
- Foster their ability to learn other languages & equip themselves with transferable skills such as autonomy, resourcefulness, creativity, critical thinking, and linguistic, cultural and cognitive flexibility that will enable them to proceed to further study or employment
- Develop their capacity for critical and analytical thinking through the language of study
- Develop as independent researchers through the language of study.

Post 18 opportunities

As well as allowing candidates to develop advanced language skills, the course will develop knowledge in Chinese culture. In addition to providing a secure foundation for wider study opportunities in higher education, the course equips candidates with a range of skills for careers in business, education and the arts.

Destinations of students in recent years:

University of Sheffield – History and Chinese SOAS, University of London – Chinese

Expenses

Students need to purchase Chinese language textbooks.