Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination 2024

Mandarin Chinese

Higher Level

Monday 17 June Morning 9:30 – 12:00

160 marks

Examination Number

Date of Birth

For example, 3rd February 2005 is entered as 03 02 05

Centre Stamp

For Examiner Only			
Q.1			
Q.2			
Q.3			
Q.4			
Q.5	(a)		
	(b)		
	(c)		
Q.6	(a)		
	(b)		
	(c)		
		Total	

For Examiner Only	
Paper 1	
Paper 2	
Total	
Grade	

The 2024 examination papers were adjusted to compensate for disruptions to learning due to COVID-19. This examination paper does not necessarily reflect the same structure and format as the examination papers of past or subsequent years.

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Instructions

There are **two** sections in this paper.

Section A	Reading	80 marks
Answer **ALL** questions – Question 1, Question 2, Question 3 **AND** Question 4		
Section B	Writing	80 marks
Answer **TWO** questions – Question 5 (a) **or** (b) **or** (c) **AND** Questions 6 (a) **or** (b) **or** (c).		

Where answers are required in Mandarin Chinese, simplified Chinese characters must be used.

You may only use **blue or black pen** when writing your answers. **Do not use pencil**.

Write your examination number in the box on the front cover.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. There is space for extra work at the end of the booklet. **Label any such extra work clearly with the question number and part**.

Section A Reading 80 marks

Question 1

Read the following weather report. Answer the questions in **English**.

今天是周一。现在是都柏林时间上午十一点半，北京时间下午六点半。都柏林今天下雨，明天不下雨。下面是都柏林和北京这几天的天气。

	周一	周二	周三	周四	周五
都柏林	十七度	二十一度	二十二度	十九度	十五度
	小雨	晴天	晴天	阴天	阴天
北京	三十二度	三十三度	三十度	二十九度	三十五度
	晴天	晴天	小雨	大雨	阴天

Vocabulary: 都柏林 = Dublin

(a) What time is it now?

Dublin Standard Time:
Beijing Standard Time:

(b) What is the weather like today in Dublin?

Weather:
Temperature:

(c) Indicate whether the following sentences are True or False by ticking (✓) the boxes.

	True	False
(i) Dublin will be colder than Beijing this week.		
(ii) It will be a sunny day on Tuesday in both Dublin and Beijing.		
(iii) Wednesday will be the coldest day in Beijing this week.		

Question 2

Read the following text about two animals. Answer the questions in **English**.

我的家在中国。大家都很喜欢我，叫我‘国宝’。我喜欢黑色和白色。我的眼睛是黑色的，耳朵是黑色的，手和脚也是黑色的。我的脸是白色的，身体也是白色的。

我认识了一个爱尔兰朋友。它跟我很像。它也喜欢黑色和白色。它的耳朵和脚是黑色的。它的身体是白色的。但是我们也不一样。它的脸是黑色的，眼睛是白色的。

Vocabulary: 国宝 = national treasure, 像 = similar

(a) What is the homeland of the animal mentioned in the first paragraph?

(b) Which two animals are mentioned?

Animal in the first paragraph:
Animal in the second paragraph:

(c) The first paragraph mentioned an animal with **four** black body parts. Name **three** of the body parts.

(i)
(ii)
(iii)

(d) The second paragraph mentioned **two** differences between the two animals. What are they?

(i)
(ii)

(e) Fill in the blanks in the table below. You will find the characters for the first column in the previous text.

Character in the text (Answer in **Chinese**)	Meaning of the character (Answer in **English**)	Radical of the character (Answer in **Chinese**)	Meaning of the radical (Answer in **English**)
	home		
		灬	
眼			
			wood / tree

Question 3

Read the following text about three athletes. Answer the questions in **English**.

一九二六年十二月，英国举行了第一次世界乒乓球比赛。现在，乒乓球是世界有名的体育运动。亚洲国家的人们很喜欢乒乓球运动。

 Jan-Ove Waldner	Jan-Ove Waldner 是瑞典的运动员。中国人很喜欢他，叫他‘老瓦’。他在一九九二年参加了奥林匹克比赛，得到了金牌。在亚洲国家外，他是第一个得到这个金牌的。
 孙颖莎	孙颖莎是中国的运动员。她二〇〇〇年十一月四日出生。她五岁开始学习打乒乓球。二〇一七年，她第一次得到了世界冠军。
 Ai Fukuhara	Ai Fukuhara 一九八八年十二月一日在日本出生。她是日本参加奥林匹克最小的乒乓球运动员。她在中国学习过乒乓球。她的乒乓球打得很好，人也很友好。中国人很喜欢她。

Vocabulary: 举行 = to hold, 亚洲 = Asia, 瑞典 = Sweden, 奥林匹克 = Olympics, 金牌 = gold medal, 冠军 = champion

(a) What is the meaning of ‘乒乓球’?

(b) In which country was the first world ‘乒乓球’ competition held?

(c) Chinese people gave a nickname to Jan-Ove Waldner. What is it? Answer in **Chinese**.

(d) According to the text, why was the gold medal won by Jan-Ove Waldner significant?

(e) Chinese people like Ai Fukuhara for a few reasons. Give **two** of them.

Reason 1:
Reason 2:

(f) Indicate whether the following sentences are True or False by ticking (✓) the boxes.

	True	**False**
(i) People in Asia like this sport very much.		
(ii) 孙颖莎 won her first match at five years old.		
(iii) According to the text, Ai Fukuhara was the youngest Japanese Olympic athlete of this sport.		

Question 4

Read the following email notice. Answer the questions in **English**.

大家好：

2024年的中文夏令营要开始了。

书法班：你学习中文多长时间了？你喜欢学习汉字吗？在我们的书法班，你可以学习中文和汉字的历史，用书法写汉字。想写自己的中文名字？想用汉字画画？没问题！

美食班：你喜欢吃中国菜吗？你想学习怎么做中国菜吗？来这个班吧！我们教你在中国饭店买好吃的菜，和服务员聊天，自己在家做几个中国菜！

音乐班：你喜欢听音乐吗？你喜欢唱歌吗？这里可以听音乐，学唱歌，交朋友。我们有小学生可以学习的儿歌，有中学生可以唱的流行歌。如果你的中文很好，可以来试试中文说唱！

祝好！

黄老师

Vocabulary: 夏令营 = summer camp, 书法 = calligraphy, 儿歌 = nursery rhyme, 流行歌 = pop song, 说唱 = rap

(a) At the calligraphy camp, one can learn through **four** types of activities. Name **two** of them.

Activity 1:
Activity 2:

(b) At the food camp, one can learn **three** different types of skills. Name **two** of them.

Skill 1:
Skill 2:

(c) What are the meanings of the following sentences? Answer in **English**.

(i) 这里可以听音乐，学唱歌，交朋友。

(ii) 如果你的中文很好，可以来试试中文说唱！

(d) What is the Chinese equivalent of 'Kind Regards' in this email? Answer in **Chinese**.

(e) Who wrote this email? Answer in **Chinese**.

(f) Mention **one** similarity or **one** difference between the format of an email in Mandarin Chinese and English.

Section B	Writing	80 marks

Question 5

Answer part **(a) OR (b) OR (c)** in approximately **50 Chinese characters**.

(a) You are going to hold a party next Sunday for your birthday. Write an invitation to your friend 李华. Include answers to the following questions.

- Where will the party be held?
- What time will the party begin and end?
- What kind of activities will be available at the party?

OR

(b) You are invited to a meeting. Respond to the invitation and provide the following information to the event organizer.

- Confirm your attendance
- Your estimated time of arrival
- Your dietary requirement

OR

(c) You recently brought something you really like and want to share with your best friend. Send a message to your friend about this item.

- What did you purchase?
- How much was it?
- How would you use it?

Question 6

Answer part **(a) OR (b) OR (c)** in approximately **100 Chinese characters**.

(a) Write a short essay to describe one of your favorite festivals. Include answers to the following questions.

- What is your favorite festival?
- Why do you like this festival?
- How do people celebrate this festival?

OR

(b) You studied Mandarin Chinese in school, and you want to find out about opportunities to continue the study in higher education. Write an email to a university to find out answers to the following questions.

- What Mandarin Chinese courses do they provide?
- What can you learn in the courses?
- What career opportunities it may provide?

OR

(c) Write a short essay to describe your family. Include answers to the following questions.

- Who are they?
- What are their occupations?
- How do you spend your weekend together?

Optional additional page. Indicate clearly the number and part of the question(s) you are answering.

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Leaving Certificate – Higher Level

Mandarin Chinese

Monday 17 June
Morning 9:30 – 12:00