2022 VCE Chinese First Language written (NHT) external assessment report

General comments

This was the final examination for the *VCE Chinese First Language Study Design 2005–2021* that was sat on the Northern Hemisphere Timetable.

In general, students scored highly in the 2022 NHT Chinese First Language written examination. Most students attempted all the questions, which suggests that time was used effectively. A small number of students demonstrated excellent skills in language application; others showed a lack of preparation; and some students did not attempt all the questions.

In Section 1 – Listening and responding, very few students answered all questions correctly or demonstrated excellent listening skills. Many students included irrelevant information in their response to Question 1a. and missed the main points. Some students had difficulty finding the correct answers for Questions 1b., 1c. and 1d., and many students failed to identify key points from the listening dialogue to correctly answer the question. Some students used incorrect Chinese characters and a few students used a lot of Pinyin. Students are advised to take detailed notes as this can be helpful in responding accurately.

In Section 2 – Reading and responding, some responses were accurate and included the relevant information, demonstrating a full understanding of the texts provided. A few students appeared not to understand the task and could not extract information from the given texts to complete the task accurately. Responses that did not score well ignored either one or both texts or copied out part of the text and used it as a response without demonstrating any understanding, especially for Text 2. Many students identified the key information, but did not use the content appropriately to form an effective response. Many responses did not include precise or correct key sentences. Careful reading of the task and analysis of the texts provided is crucial to the satisfactory completion of the task, and key sentences are important for the correct writing style. A persuasive writing style was required in this question, but some students used an informative style.

In Section 3 – Writing in Chinese, most students chose Question 4, followed by Question 5 and Question 3. Some students who chose an imaginative writing question (Question 6 or Question 7) failed to produce a response that demonstrated the characteristics of the required text type. Most students showed clear understanding of the other text types. Students who responded to Question 5 did not demonstrate the appropriate characteristics of the text type. Question 7 provided a photo as a stimulus and some students failed to view the photo carefully or develop a story from the photo.

Specific information

Note: This report provides sample answers or an indication of what answers may have included. Unless otherwise stated, these are not intended to be exemplary or complete responses.

Section 1 – Listening and responding

The assessment criteria for this section were the capacity to:

* understand general and specific aspects of texts
* convey information accurately and appropriately.

Question 1a.

* 民族熔炉。展厅了金器、铜器、陶器、石雕到木板彩绘、漆画，魏晋南北朝至隋唐的珍贵文物。 (The ‘Melting Pot of Ethnicities’ exhibition hall mainly displays cultural relics from the Wei, Jin, Southern and Northern Dynasties to the Sui and Tang Dynasties, ranging from gold, bronze, pottery and stone carvings to wooden panel paintings and lacquer paintings, all kinds of precious cultural relics are dazzling and splendid, it was a real visual feast.)
* 感觉到浓重的南北朝文化气息，民族融合的时尚，以及传统文化，尤其是儒家文化对北方各民族文化的深远影响。 (Feel the strong cultural atmosphere of the Northern and Southern Dynasties, the fashion of national integration and the far-reaching impact of traditional culture, especially Confucian culture, on the cultures of all ethnic groups in the north.)
* 北魏的司马金龙漆画屏风板，漆画的典范。 (The lacquer-painted screen panels that belonged to a monarchy of the Northern Wei Dynasty; it is a real eye-opener!)

Question 1b.

* 漆画是一种以大漆为主要材料的绘画形式，大约两千年前就有了。(Lacquer painting is a form of painting with lacquer. Its main material came into existence around two thousand years ago.)
* 古代漆画是漆器的装饰，人们更注重它的实用价值，忽略了它的艺术价值。(In ancient times, lacquer painting was used to decorate lacquer ware, and people focused more on its practical value and ignored its artistic value.)
* 直到 20 世纪 60 年代，现代漆画凭借其出色的表现力和独特的 材料美与工艺美跻身现代画坛。(In the 1960s, modern lacquer painting, with its outstanding expressiveness and unique beauty of materials and craftsmanship, won a place in the world of modern paintings.)
* 1987 年，在中国美术馆举办的“乔十光漆画展”，确认了漆画在现代画坛的地位。 (In 1987, the exhibition of lacquer paintings by Qiao Shiguang at the National Art Museum of China reinterpreted the art of lacquer, confirming its position in the world of modern paintings.)

Question 1c.

* 漆液黏稠/粘稠、易干，比起用墨或颜料，用漆作画更难。 (The lacquer is sticky and dries easily, making it more difficult to paint with lacquer than with ink or pigments.)
* 漆画的制作过程极为复杂，要经过反复刷漆，打磨和上色。 (The process of making lacquer paintings is extremely complex, involving repeated painting, sanding and colouring.)
* 漆画是工艺性与绘画性两者相结合的产物。如果过分注重技法，就容易忽略画意的表达；而片面强调绘画性，则容易忽略漆艺的特性。 (In addition, lacquer painting is a combination of craftsmanship and painterliness. If one focuses too much on technique, they tend to neglect the expression of the meaning of the painting, whereas if one emphasises the painting too much, they tend to ignore the characteristics of lacquer art.)
* 所以漆画创作者必须同时兼具漆艺与 绘画两方面的高超技艺。 (Therefore, a lacquer painter must be highly skilled in both lacquer art and painting.)

Question 1d.

* 制作工艺考究，色彩含蓄典雅，且视觉效果虚实交错。 (Lacquer paintings are characterised with a rational layout design, exquisite techniques, elegant colour, and visual effects that integrate virtuality and reality, providing lacquer paintings with a distinctive appeal.)
* 漆画还具有丰富的文化和精神内涵，它的基本内涵和中国传统文化的精神内核是一脉相承的。 (Lacquer painting also has rich cultural and spiritual connotations. Its basic connotation is in line with the spiritual core of traditional Chinese culture.)
* 中国传统文化的精神内核是儒、释、道的统一，是天、地、人的合而为一。 (The spiritual core of traditional Chinese culture is the unity of Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism, the unity of heaven, earth and man.)
* 漆画艺术既是对传统文化的继承又是现代艺术精神的体现。 (The art of lacquer painting is both the inheritance of traditional culture and the embodiment of the spirit of modern art.)

Section 2 – Reading and responding

The assessment criteria for this section were:

* the capacity to identify and synthesise relevant information and ideas from the texts
* appropriateness of structure and sequence
* accuracy, range and appropriateness of vocabulary and grammar (including punctuation and, where relevant, script).

Question 2

Having started your university life, you have gradually realised the importance of selecting your field of study at university. As a first-year university student, you are invited to make a speech to the graduating class at your old high school to persuade the students to avoid blindly following the crowd when selecting their field of study. Write the script for this speech based on the two texts provided.

Text 2

Responses could have incorporated the following information and ideas from Text 2:

* 古之学者为己，今之学者为人 （应向古人学习） (People in the past studied for themselves, while people today study for others (you should learn from people in the past).)
* 学以致用，即为己也 （为自己而不是为了别人） (To study and apply what you have studied means to study for yourself (you should study for yourself not for others).)
* 欲得文凭，以炫耀乡人，此为人也 （不应以炫耀为目的） (To study for a qualification so as to show off is to study for others (you should not study for the purpose of showing off).)
* 需致用于国家 (Need to be required/useful for the country.)
* 诸君为学，但求发达其本能，勿务于外 （不要受外界因素影响，应追求自身兴趣特长的发展和完善） (You should study only to pursue your inner passion not for other purposes (you should not be weighed down by external factors; instead, you should pursue the development of your inner passion and strength).)

Text 3

Responses could have incorporated the following information and ideas from Text 3:

* 举例：留守女孩钟芳蓉报考北大考古专业引发广大网友争议 (Example: The decision of the left-behind girl, Zhong Fangrong, to apply to study archaeology at Peking University has sparked controversy among citizens.)
* 将专业选择与物质生活捆绑的观念仍广受推崇 (The belief that ties selecting a specialised field of study to material wealth is still held in high regard.)
* 大众对“前途即钱途”不加反思的随波逐流 （要有独立思考） (The public have jumped on the bandwagon that believes ‘prospect is prosperity’ without any reflection (we should be able to think independently).)
* 更看重行业是否有“钱”途,而往往忽略自己的兴趣与专长（结合个人兴趣，发挥自身优势） (Many people focus on whether the industry is well paid while ignoring their interests and talent (personal interest and strength should be taken into consideration).)
* 他们把工作视为单纯的谋生手段，而非真心喜欢这一专业，难以在今后的工作中获得幸福感 （学习与工作不应只以挣钱为目的，不应只为了生存，选择喜欢且适合的专业才能在工作中获得幸福感） (They see work as a means to making a living without a real interest in the field and can’t gain happiness from the work they will do after graduation (one should refrain from studying or working just for money or livelihood; selecting a field of study that interests and suits you will increase your happiness at work).)

Section 3 – Writing in Chinese

The assessment criteria for this section were:

* Criterion 1 – Relevance, breadth, and depth of content
* Criterion 2 – Appropriateness of structure and sequence
* Criterion 3 – Accuracy of vocabulary and grammar (including punctuation and, where relevant, script)
* Criterion 4 – Range and appropriateness of vocabulary and grammar

Question 3

随着科学技术的不断进步，云展览已经逐渐走入大众视野。你是一位艺术评论员，应邀参加了某个博物馆主办的云展览体验活动。请写一封电子邮件给主办方，谈谈云展览的利与弊。

With the continued development of science and technology, online art exhibitions have gradually come to public attention. As an art commentator, you have recently been invited to attend an online art exhibition. Write an email to the organiser, discussing the advantages and disadvantages of online art exhibitions.

**Text type:** Email

**Writing style:** Evaluative

**Audience:** Organiser of the exhibition

Question 4

如今，智能家居已经成为一种时尚。你是一名记者，就“智能家居对人们生活的正负面影响”这一话题采访了很多人。现请你将人们对智能家居的不同看法整理成文，发表在某个生活杂志上。

Smart homes have now become a fashion. As a journalist, you have interviewed many people on the positive and negative impact of smart homes on people’s lives. Write an article for a lifestyle magazine to discuss the opposing views of people on smart homes.

**Text type:** Article

**Writing style:** Evaluative

**Audience:** Readers of the lifestyle magazine

Question 5

老师和家长们一直教导我们说话要委婉。你们的中文班就“委婉说话的利与弊”举办了一个主题班会。作为班长，请将主题班会的内容整理成一份报告，呈交给你的老师。

Our parents and teachers have been teaching us not to speak bluntly. In your Chinese language class, you have had a discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of not speaking bluntly. As the class leader, write a report on the discussion you have had for your teacher.

**Text type:** Report

**Writing style:** Evaluative

**Audience:** Teacher

Question 6

在寓言故事《滥竽充数》中，喜欢听独奏的齐湣王继位后，对吹竽一窍不通的南郭先生立刻溜走了。后来，在他身上又发生了什么呢？请展开想象，续写这个故事, 这则故事将收录于某部儿童成语故事集。

In the fable ‘Be there pretending to play the *yu*, just to make up the number’, King Min of Qi, who preferred solos, ascended the throne. Because of this, Mr Nanguo, who knew nothing about the *yu*,ran away immediately. What happened to him afterwards? Use your imagination and extend this story, which is to be included in a collection of stories for children.

**Text type:** Short story

**Writing style:** Imaginative

**Audience:** Children

Question 7

想象你跟以下图片中的孩子和大象共同度过了奇妙的一天。写一篇日记，记录你们这一天的经历。

Imagine you spent a wonderful day with the child and the elephant in the picture. Write a diary entry to record the day you spent together.

**Text type:** Diary entry

**Writing style:** Imaginative

**Audience:** The author of the diary