



National  
Qualifications  
2023

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**2023 Cantonese**  
**Reading**  
**Higher**  
**Finalised Marking Instructions**

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## General marking principles for Higher Cantonese Reading

*Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.*

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Award a mark for each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions and the answers for each question must come from the item.
- (d) Marks are available as follows:
  - (i) The first set of questions (worth 18 marks in total) asks candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. There are generally 1-3 marks available for each question.
  - (ii) The penultimate question is the overall purpose question, and candidates must identify the overall purpose of the text and draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of 2 marks available for reference to the text and detailed comment. Pegged mark descriptors (2/1/0) and associated commentary are available, along with further guidance, in the detailed marking instructions.
  - (iii) The last question is the translation. For this question, candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation is divided into five sense units. For each sense unit, award 2, 1 or 0 marks: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.
- (e) Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's answers. Award marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

Marking instructions for each question

| Question |     |  | Expected response(s)   | Max mark | Additional guidance |
|----------|-----|--|--|----------|---------------------|
|          |     |  |  |          | Do not accept:      |
| 1.       | (a) |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>finding a job they like</li> </ul>  | 1        |                     |
|          | (b) |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>what they have learned at university is useless in the workplace</li> </ul>   | 1        |                     |
| 2.       | (a) |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there are more graduates than jobs available</li> <li>approximately/more than 100 people apply for each job</li> <li>there are more graduates unemployed than employed</li> </ul>   | 3        |                     |
|          | (b) |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>many developed cities</li> <li>Universities there are excellent/<b>very</b> good</li> <li>students want to find a job in the cities where they study</li> </ul> <p>Any 2 from 3</p> | 2        |                     |
| 3.       |     |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>economy is not developed</li> <li><b>many</b> areas are rural/villages</li> <li>low population</li> </ul>   | 3        |                     |
| 4.       |     |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>support (the development of) film <b>industry</b></li> <li><b>increase</b> investment in education <b>and</b> health</li> <li>create <b>more</b> job opportunities</li> </ul>       | 3        |                     |
| 5.       | (a) |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>consider</b> your interests/hobbies</li> <li>choose a subject which makes it easier to get a job</li> <li><b>look into</b> new types of jobs</li> </ul>                          | 3        |                     |
|          | (b) |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>many families have robot floor cleaner/vacuum cleaner/h Hoover</li> <li>more people drive electric cars</li> </ul>  | 2        |                     |

| Question | Expected response(s)   | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|----------|---|
| 6.       | <p>Assertion only = 0 mark<br/>           Assertion + example = 1 mark<br/>           Highlights challenges and future opportunities = 1 mark<br/>           Assertion + justification + supporting examples = 2 marks</p> <p><b>Assertion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The writer worries about the situation university graduates currently face.</li> <li>• The writer doesn't worry about the situation university graduates currently face.</li> </ul> <p><b>Justification:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The article highlights the pressure of finding a job for university graduates.</li> <li>• The article lists the causes of pressure that university students face.</li> <li>• The article highlights many employment opportunities in the next 20 years.</li> <li>• The article gives many positive suggestions.</li> <li>• The article uses the examples of Mr Wang and Ms Zhang to show that there are plenty of options for students and graduates.</li> <li>• The article indicates many new job opportunities that are created by the government and new technologies.</li> </ul> | 2        | <p>Award <b>2 marks</b> where the candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text.</p> <p>Award <b>1 mark</b> where the candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of some justification.</p> <p>Award <b>0 marks</b> where the candidate simply provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.</p> |

| Question | Expected response(s)   | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|----------|---|
| 7.       | <p><b>Translate into English:</b></p> <p>此外，中國西部的大學不多 . . . 政府希望更多的年輕人能去那里工作和生活。(line 13–15)</p> | 10       | <p>The translation into English is allocated <b>10 marks</b>. The text for translation is divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth <b>2 marks</b>. Award marks according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English.</p> <p>Award a mark for each sense unit, as follows</p> <p><b>2 marks - good</b><br/>The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p><b>1 mark - satisfactory</b><br/>The candidate understands and conveys essential information clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. They convey the key message in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English.</p> <p><b>0 marks - unsatisfactory</b><br/>The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.</p> |

| Text                                      | Good - 2   | Satisfactory - 1 | Unsatisfactory - 0 |
|---|--|------------------|--------------------|
| <p><b>Unit 1</b></p> <p>此外，中國西部的大學不多，</p> | <p>Moreover, there are not many universities in the west of China.</p> |                  |                    |
| <p><b>Unit 2</b></p> <p>比東部的畢業生人數少，</p>   | <p>Compared to the east, there are fewer graduates.</p>                |                  |                    |
| <p><b>Unit 3</b></p> <p>找工作的壓力也小很多，</p>   | <p>The pressure of finding a job is also a lot less.</p>               |                  |                    |
| <p><b>Unit 4</b></p> <p>因此，政府希望更多的年輕人</p> | <p>Therefore, the government hope more young people</p>                |                  |                    |
| <p><b>Unit 5</b></p> <p>能去那里工作和生活。</p>    | <p>can go there to work and live.</p>                                  |                  |                    |

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]