



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate 2025

Marking Scheme

Mandarin Chinese

Ordinary Level

Note to teachers and students on the use of published marking schemes

Marking schemes published by the State Examinations Commission are not intended to be standalone documents. They are an essential resource for examiners who receive training in the correct interpretation and application of the scheme. This training involves, among other things, marking samples of student work and discussing the marks awarded, so as to clarify the correct application of the scheme. The work of examiners is subsequently monitored by Advising Examiners to ensure consistent and accurate application of the marking scheme. This process is overseen by the Chief Examiner, usually assisted by a Chief Advising Examiner. The Chief Examiner is the final authority regarding whether or not the marking scheme has been correctly applied to any piece of candidate work.

Marking schemes are working documents. While a draft marking scheme is prepared in advance of the examination, the scheme is not finalised until examiners have applied it to candidates' work and the feedback from all examiners has been collated and considered in light of the full range of responses of candidates, the overall level of difficulty of the examination and the need to maintain consistency in standards from year to year. This published document contains the finalised scheme, as it was applied to all candidates' work.

In the case of marking schemes that include model solutions or answers, it should be noted that these are not intended to be exhaustive. Variations and alternatives may also be acceptable. Examiners must consider all answers on their merits, and will have consulted with their Advising Examiners when in doubt.

Future Marking Schemes

Assumptions about future marking schemes on the basis of past schemes should be avoided. While the underlying assessment principles remain the same, the details of the marking of a particular type of question may change in the context of the contribution of that question to the overall examination in a given year. The Chief Examiner in any given year has the responsibility to determine how best to ensure the fair and accurate assessment of candidates' work and to ensure consistency in the standard of the assessment from year to year. Accordingly, aspects of the structure, detail and application of the marking scheme for a particular examination are subject to change from one year to the next without notice.

READING: 100 MARKS

Question 1 - 8 marks

Word	Letter
苹果	C (1 mark)
杯子	E (1 mark)
下雨	A (1 mark)
下雪	H (1 mark)
唱歌	F (1 mark)
学校	B (1 mark)
猫	D (1 mark)
狗	G (1 mark)

Question 2 – 20 marks

- (a) What class will Linda **NOT** attend tomorrow? (1 x 4 marks)
Chinese class
- (b) What competition will Linda have tomorrow? (1 x 4 marks)
basketball ✓
- (c) Who will bring Linda to the competition? (1 x 4 marks)
her dad/father
- (d) At what time will Linda go to school tomorrow? (1 x 4 marks)
1:30 p.m. ✓
- (e) Name **one** learning activity Linda will do with her Chinese friends. (1 x 4 marks)
learning Chinese; writing Chinese characters
(Answer any one of the two)

Question 3 - 30 marks

- (a) On what day will 乐乐 and his parents return to China? (1 x 8 marks)

next Saturday ✓

- (b) Which city will 乐乐 and his parents arrive at first? Answer in **Chinese**.? (1 x 2 marks)

北京

- (c) How many days will 乐乐 and his parents spend in the first city? (1 x 5 marks)

four/4

- (d) Write whether the following sentences are True or False. Tick (✓) the correct box.

		True	False
(i)	Beijing is very warm.	✓ (5 marks)	
(ii)	乐乐's grandfather suggested to them to eat more food.		✓ (5 marks)
(iii)	乐乐's grandfather wants some Irish tea as a present.	✓ (5 marks)	

Question 4 - 42 marks

- (a) Mark the corresponding area according to the map above. (4 x 5 marks)

- (i) E
- (ii) C
- (iii) A
- (iv) D

- (b) Tick (✓) the correct category for each of the following characters.

	Left-to-right structure	Top-bottom structure	Enclosed structure	Single structure
站	✓ (4 marks)			
图			✓ (4 marks)	
火				✓ (4 marks)
学		✓ (4 marks)		

(c) Write down the radicals of the following characters and the meaning of the radicals.

	Radical of the character (Answer in Chinese)	Meaning of the radical (Answer in English)
校	木 (1 mark)	wood (1 mark)
汽	氵 (1 mark)	water (1 mark)
超	走 (1 mark)	walk (1 mark)

WRITING: 60 MARKS

Questions 5 - 30 marks

(a)

(i) 们 (3 marks)

(ii) 门 (3 marks)

(b)

(i) 米 (3 marks)

(ii) 本 (3 marks)

(c)

(i) 人 (3 marks)

(ii) 大 (3 marks)

(iii) 天 (3 marks)

(d)

(i) 果 (3 marks)

(ii) 早 (3 marks)

(iii) 草 (3 marks)

Question 6 - 30 marks

Marking Instruction:

Circle errors of characters in red. Only circle the first occurrence of this error.

Use wavy lines for grammatical mistakes.

Use underline for substitutes of characters.

The mark awarded to each question under the two headings (communication and language) is then determined by reference to the marking grids below.

Communication = 3 marks

Language = 3 marks

MARKING GRID

Communication	
3 marks High level of achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses a full sentence to answer the question• Good or excellent achievement of the task
2 marks Moderate level of achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses phrase/s to answer the question• Adequate achievement of the task
0-1 mark Low level of achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses word/s to answer the question• Barely adequate or no achievement of the task

Language	
3 marks High level of achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some or no mistakes in characters, but do not significantly impede meaning• No mistakes in grammar and word order, or mistakes do not impede meaning• Very few to no substitutes of characters using other languages or means (e.g., pinyin, traditional characters, first language, other phonetic symbols ...)
2 marks Moderate level of achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequent mistakes in characters, but do not significantly impede meaning• Some mistakes in grammar and word order, but do not significantly impede meaning• Some substitutes of characters using other languages or means (e.g., pinyin, traditional characters, first language, other phonetic symbols ...)
0-1 mark Low level of achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequent mistakes in characters, which impede meaning• Mistakes in grammar and word order impede meaning significantly• Frequent substitutes of characters using other languages or means (e.g., pinyin, traditional characters, first language, other phonetic symbols ...)

LISTENING COMPREHENSION: 120 MARKS

Answers given in the wrong language e.g. answers in Irish/English when Mandarin Chinese is required or answers in Mandarin Chinese when Irish/English is required – award 50% of the marks.

Section A - 20 marks

1. How does Lily get to the park? (1 x 4 marks)

by bus ✓

2. What day is it today? (1 x 4 marks)

Sunday ✓

3. Whether the following sentences are True or False. Tick (✓) the correct box.

		True	False
(a)	Adam's younger brother is wearing a yellow T-shirt.		✓ (4 marks)
(b)	Adam's younger brother is 17 years old.	✓ (4 marks)	
(c)	Adam's younger brother is as tall as Adam.		✓ (4 marks)

Section B - 20 marks

1. (a) What time did Leo get up in the morning? (1 x 4 marks)

8:40 a.m. ✓

- (b) Where did Leo go with his puppy? (1 x 4 marks)

park ✓

2. What did Leo do at 5:30 p.m.? (1 x 4 marks)

played computer games ✓

3. (a) Who did Leo have dinner with? (1 x 4 marks)

friends ✓

- (b) What time did Leo go to bed? (1 x 4 marks)

11 p.m. ✓

Section C - 20 marks

1. (a) What kind of dumplings does the customer want to buy? (1 x 4 marks)

beef dumplings ✓

(b) Does the shop have steamed buns? (1 x 4 marks)
no

2. Where is the tofu? (1 x 4 marks)
next to the noodles ✓

3. (a) What festival is taking place next week? (1 x 4 marks)
Chinese New Year/Lunar New Year/Spring Festival
(Answer any one of the three)

(b) Where are the on-sale products located? (1 x 4 marks)
on the red table ✓

Section D - 20 marks

1. (a) How many classes does Ms. Li have today? (1 x 4 marks)
6 classes ✓

(b) When does Mr. Wang **NOT** have class today? (1 x 4 marks)
in the afternoon

2. (a) What will Mr. Wang do in the afternoon? (1 x 4 marks)
check students' homework ✓

(b) Why will they have dinner together tonight? (1 x 4 marks)
to celebrate Ms. Li's birthday ✓

3. What does Ms. Li want to eat today? (1 x 4 marks)
Pizza ✓

Section E - 20 marks

1. In which year was Ms. Zhang in Dublin before? (1 x 4 marks)
2014 ✓

2. Write whether the following sentences are True or False. Tick (✓) the correct box.

		True	False
(a)	It's a little cold today.	✓ (4 marks)	

(b)	It will be raining this afternoon.		✓ (4 marks)
(c)	It will be raining every day this week.	✓ (4 marks)	

3. What does Ms. Zhang want to do now? (1 x 4 marks)

go shopping ✓

Section F - 20 marks

1. (a) What is Jack's nationality? (1 x 4 marks)

Irish ✓

- (b) Who likes walking to classes? (1 x 4 marks)

Emma ✓

2. (a) What is beside the bookstore? (1 x 4 marks)

a coffee shop ✓

- (b) What does Emma like to drink? (1 x 4 marks)

green tea ✓

3. Where is Jack going next month? (1 x 4 marks)

Chengdu ✓

Appendix 1

CD Script

Section A

You will hear a conversation between Lily and Adam.

Adam: 喂, Lily, 你在哪里?

Lily: Adam, 我在公共汽车上。

Adam: 太好了! 我们在公园门口见。

Lily: 好的。一会儿见。

Lily: 今天公园有很多人。

Adam: 是的, 因为今天是星期天, 天气也很好。

Lily: 很多人在散步, 也有人踢足球。

Adam: 是的, 我弟弟在踢足球。

Lily: 你弟弟在哪儿?

Adam: 他在那儿。他穿蓝色的 T 恤, 黑色的短裤和白色的运动鞋。

Lily: 你的弟弟很高。

Adam: 是的。他今年 17 岁, 他比我小一岁。但是他比我高。

Section B

You will hear Leo describing a day during his summer holidays.

我叫 Leo, 这是我八月的一天。我早上 8 点 40 起床, 上午 9 点, 我和我的小狗去公园跑步。上午 10 点 10 分, 我吃早饭。11 点, 我在家看书。

下午两点, 我吃午饭。下午 3 点半, 我骑自行车去电影院看电影。五点半, 我在家玩电脑游戏。

晚上 7 点, 我和好朋友一起吃晚饭。晚上 11 点, 我睡觉。

Section C

You will hear a conversation between a shop assistant and a customer.

Customer: 你好! 请问有饺子吗?

Shop assistant: 有, 在这里。我们有牛肉饺子, 羊肉饺子和鸡肉饺子。

Customer: 我买牛肉饺子。你们有包子吗?

Shop assistant: 对不起, 我们没有包子。

Customer: 我还想买豆腐。豆腐在哪儿?

Shop assistant: 你看, 豆腐在面条的旁边。

Customer: 鸡蛋在哪儿?

Shop assistant: 鸡蛋在牛奶的左边。

Customer: 好的, 谢谢。

Shop assistant: 下个星期是中国新年, 我们的很多东西都便宜。

Customer: 是吗? 在哪儿呢?

Shop assistant: 在红色的桌子上。

Section D

You will hear a conversation between two teachers, Mr. Wang and Ms. Li

Wang: 李老师, 你今天怎么样?

Li: 王老师, 我很忙。我今天有六节课。你呢?

Wang: 我还好。我下午没有课。

Li: 王老师, 你下午做什么?

Wang: 我要看看学生的数学作业。

Li: 今天是我的生日, 晚上我们一起吃饭吧。

Wang: 生日快乐, 李老师。你想吃什么菜?

Li: 我喜欢吃日本菜和法国菜。但是, 我今天想吃披萨。

Wang: 好的。市中心有一个很好的意大利饭店。

Li: 太好了, 我们去那里吧。

Section E

You will hear a conversation between a taxi driver and a passenger in the airport.

Driver: 您好, 您是张女士吗?

Zhang: 对, 我是。这是我今天的车吗?

Driver: 是的。您第一次来都柏林吗?

Zhang: 不是。我 2014 年来过。

Zhang: 今天的天气有点儿冷。

Driver: 上午下雨, 所以有点儿冷。下午是晴天。

Zhang: 明天天气怎么样?

Driver: 明天下雨。这个星期每天都下雨。

Driver: 我们现在去酒店吗?

Zhang: 现在不去。我想去买衣服。我有点儿冷, 我没有带很多衣服。

Driver: 我们可以去超市, 也可以去商场。

Zhang: 哪一个近一点儿?

Driver: 超市离机场近一点儿。

Zhang: 好的, 我们去超市。谢谢。

Section F

You will hear Jack's travel Vlog.

大家好，我是 Jack，我是爱尔兰人。这里是中国广州。我在广州大学学习中文。我们一起去看看吧。因为广州大学很大，所以我骑自行车去上课。我朋友 Emma 喜欢走路去上课。

现在，我们在书店。书店的旁边是咖啡馆，我和 Emma 喜欢在这里学习。我喜欢吃面包，喝咖啡。Emma 喜欢喝绿茶。

好的，这是今天的 Vlog。我下个月要去成都，下次我们一起看看成都吧！再见！

