

2021 HSC Chinese and Literature Marking Guidelines

Section I — Listening and Responding Part A

Question 1 (a)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a sound understanding of why Xiaolan is busy and tired	2
• Provides some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

She has to look after her sick dad in hospital straight after work and to take care of her own children.

Question 1 (b)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a sound understanding of what the conversation reveals about how traditional Chinese values have changed	3
• Demonstrates some understanding of what the conversation reveals about how traditional Chinese values have changed	2
• Provides some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

Firstly, Chinese culture used to value sons over daughters, but that's no longer the case. Many prefer to have a daughter, 'an intimate small cotton padded jacket'. Secondly, four generations under one roof and a family full of children and grandchildren were seen as a sign of blessing. However, even with the introduction of the second-child policy in China, many families still choose to have just one child. Lastly, it was believed that while the parents are alive, children should not travel to places far away from home, but in contemporary society, some people question the idea.

Question 1 (c)

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of how Dashan conveys his point of view on the problems arising from the one-child policy, with extensive reference to content and language techniques 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a thorough understanding of how Dashan conveys his point of view on the problems arising from the one-child policy, with detailed reference to content and language techniques 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a sound understanding of how Dashan conveys his point of view on the problems arising from the one-child policy, with reference to content and language techniques 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates some understanding of how Dashan conveys his point of view on the problems arising from the one-child policy, with some reference to content and/or language techniques 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides some relevant information 	1

Sample answer:

Dashan believes that many social problems arise from the one-child policy. Single children have to shoulder the burden of looking after their elderly parents as they do not have any siblings to share the responsibility. This has also become an economic and social problem. Dashan uses different language techniques to support his argument. For example, he uses parallelism, eg 'not have the help of siblings, not have the support of the society, not have strong economic strength' to show the social pressure of looking after elderly parents on their own. Besides, he uses statistics '180 million single children have elderly parents and young children to support' to show the extent of the economic burden and the immense pressure single children face. Additionally, he uses the metaphor 'an inverted triangle' to highlight the burden on single children, and 'empty nest' to express the pitiful circumstances elderly parents face.

Section I — Listening and Responding

Part B

Question 2

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the issues raised in the texts and a sophisticated level of ability to compare and contrast them • Composes a coherent argument demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of the texts • Demonstrates a highly-developed understanding of context and audience • Demonstrates an excellent control of vocabulary and language structures 	9–10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies the main issues in the texts and compares and contrasts them in a lucid way • Composes an effective argument with close reference to the texts • Writes effectively for the context and audience • Demonstrates an appropriate knowledge and understanding of language structures and vocabulary 	7–8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coherently compares and contrasts information in the texts • Writes coherently and with some appropriate textual reference • Relates information to context and audience • Writes using a range of language structures and vocabulary 	5–6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compares and contrasts some opinions, ideas and information in the texts • Demonstrates a limited ability to structure and sequence information and ideas • Demonstrates an awareness of context and audience 	3–4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some understanding of the texts and the ability to compare and contrast information • Shows some evidence of the ability to organise information 	1–2

Answers could include:

Positive views on the phenomenon of internet celebrity:

- Internet celebrities have the courage to express their values.
- They enrich everyone’s spiritual and cultural life and make our lives more interesting.
- Some internet celebrity professors promote citizens’ understanding of Chinese classical literature, using a simple but interesting language.
- During the pandemic, some internet celebrity doctors used humour to make everyone understand the importance of self-protection. Some internet celebrities have played an active role in the development of new economic activities, and helped to increase job opportunities.

Negative views on the phenomenon of internet celebrity:

- Many internet celebrities rely on their attractive physical appearance and their fans’ tipping to make a living.
- They are making our society more capitalised and pleasure-oriented, denying the values of faith and dedication.
- Internet celebrities have had a very negative impact on their fans. Some teenagers dream to become an internet celebrity one day without using their time constructively.

Section II — Reading and Responding

Part A

Question 3 (a)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a sound understanding of what Wang Yang’s marriage reveals about his change in attitude towards life and relationships	3
• Demonstrates some understanding of what Wang Yang’s marriage reveals about his change in attitude towards life and relationships	2
• Provides some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

Wang’s marriage to Li indicates his changed attitude towards life and relationships. He has drifted away from his romantic desires for life and relationship after his fruitless relationships in the past. He realises that life should be simple and down to earth. Therefore, he chooses to marry Li, a practical, kind and loving woman.

Question 3 (b)

Criteria	Marks
• Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of Meng Xiaojun’s personality, with extensive reference to the text	5
• Demonstrates a thorough understanding of Meng Xiaojun’s personality, with substantial reference to the text	4
• Demonstrates a sound understanding of Meng Xiaojun’s personality, with reference to the text	3
• Demonstrates some understanding of Meng Xiaojun’s personality, with some reference to the text	2
• Provides some relevant information	1

Sample answer:

Meng is confident so he isn’t afraid of leaving the company because he knows his talent will shine anywhere, especially as he has another job offer in Shenyang. Meng is also self-centred as he even states that he used to believe that he was the most important figure. He expected his friends to ask what went wrong with him when he suffered ‘stage fright’ instead of honestly telling them his experience in USA. He is also hardworking, as he worked tirelessly for the tuition company when he returned to China. Additionally, he seems goal-orientated as he prioritises sitting for the TOEFL test over caring for his friend when Cheng Dongqing was sick.

Question 3 (c)

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a perceptive understanding of what techniques the director uses to portray the changes in the relationship between Wang, Meng and Cheng • Provides extensive reference to the extract and the entire film 	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of what techniques the director uses to portray the changes in the relationship between Wang, Meng and Cheng • Provides substantial reference to the extract and the entire film 	5–6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a thorough understanding of what techniques the director uses to portray the changes in the relationship between Wang, Meng and Cheng • Provides sound reference to the extract and the entire film 	3–4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a sound understanding of what techniques the director uses to portray the changes in the relationship between Wang, Meng and Cheng • Provides some reference to the extract and/or the entire film 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a basic understanding of what techniques the director uses to portray the changes in the relationship between Wang, Meng and Cheng 	1

Answers could include:

The director portrays the changes in their relationship through a variety of language and film techniques.

- Initially, Meng looks down on Cheng. Meng’s sense of superiority is evident as he refers to Cheng as ‘a country bumpkin’. On the other hand, Cheng always admires Meng, which is shown through the medium close shot where he tells the American visa officer that Meng is the idol of his life. Throughout the film, Wang is portrayed as the moderator between Cheng and Meng, which is particularly shown in the use of montage in the ping-pong playing scene. This is also illustrated in the extract through medium close shots of Wang’s facial expressions where Wang tries to have Meng and Cheng think from another person’s perspective.
- The three characters’ friendship gradually becomes stronger. It is shown in the flashback where the three push their way through fellow students at the entrance to their university in the rain. Additionally, Meng’s repetition from the extract, ‘I have believed in our relationship before when you stopped others fighting us, and I have believed in our relationship before when you saw me off to America . . .’ to highlight their strong friendship.
- Conflict starts to emerge between Cheng and Meng when it comes to their company’s shareholding reform. A number of close-ups of their facial expressions display the two characters’ tension and disagreement in their board meetings. In the extract, the conflict becomes evident when both Wang and Meng want to leave the company to pursue their own paths. The director purposefully has the three characters sitting at different tables, in the dark, after the wedding banquet to highlight the tension.
- Finally, their relationship recovers when they work together to face the accusation by the company EES and deal with the issue in a joint effort, which is displayed through close-ups of their exchange of looks and excitement. The close-up in the car when they fight in jest further shows the return of their close relationship.

Section II — Reading and Responding

Part A (continued)

Question 4

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a highly-developed ability to analyse how the novel and film expresses the idea • Demonstrates a perceptive and insightful ability to analyse the way in which language is used to convey meaning in the novel and film • Composes a coherent and sophisticated argument demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of the texts 	21–25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the ability to analyse how the novel and film expresses the idea • Analyses the way in which language is used to convey meaning in the novel and film • Composes an effective argument with appropriate textual reference 	16–20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the ability to identify and discuss how the novel and film expresses the idea • Discusses ways in which language is used to convey meaning in the novel and film • Supports the discussion of the question with some appropriate textual reference 	11–15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies with some elaboration examples relevant to the statement • Identifies some examples of the way in which language is used to convey meaning in the novel and film • Attempts to compose an argument with reference to the text 	6–10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies some ideas and information relevant to the question • Demonstrates some ability to structure and sequence ideas 	1–5

Answers could include:

Chapters 1 to 4 of the novel *Chinatown Family* reflect the statement to a great extent.

- Chinese believe that it is important for all family members to live together. This symbolises a family's wholeness. They believe that family members should support and love each other.
- As soon as Yike earns his bonus of \$500 at work, he gives this first saving to his father. The author uses descriptive language of Yike's facial expression to emphasise Yike's sense of pride in being able to give his dad some money. This is like being filial to his father.
- Uncle Cheng made Feng a partner of his variety store so that he would be able to fulfil the requirement for migrating to the USA. Consequently, he is able to bring his wife and children to the USA. The statement 'Uncle Cheng is very willing to help to bring his sister, nieces and nephews to get to the USA' highlights how much trouble family members are willing to go through in order to support each other.
- In the conversation in which the eldest son in the Feng family discusses with his wife about living independently, away from the whole family, the author employs multiple

rhetorical questions, parallelism and high modality phrases. All of which underpin the high value that Chinese people place on family connection, especially with many generations living together under one roof harmoniously.

- Chinese people also make sure that the next generations learn about filial piety and respecting the elderly people in the family. Mrs Feng always educates her children, Tom and Eva, to be filial towards their father. She makes Tom call Flora ‘sister-in-law’, but not her first name, to show respect. Mrs Feng always dresses Tom and Eva properly because she believes that as a Chinese person, you must not bring shame to your family.

The film *Finding Mr Right* reflects the statement to a lesser extent.

- Chinese often place their family members’ interests above those of their own. They are willing to make sacrifices for their family. As the pregnant Wen Jiajia is unable to establish a birth record for her unborn child in China, due to her out-of-wedlock love affair with the child’s father, she willingly takes on the challenge of flying to the USA to give birth, despite not being able to speak English and being unfamiliar with this new country. She does this so that her unborn child can have a formal and legal birth record. It is demonstrated when she poses the rhetorical question, ‘Who would like to travel across the sea to the USA to give birth to a baby’.
- Marrying a person from a similar socioeconomic and racial background is desirable for Chinese people. Mrs Huang also firmly believes that family unity is an important Chinese family value. Even though Mrs Huang disagrees with her daughter marrying a non-Chinese person, she still accepts the pair so that she can maintain a united family together. Mrs Huang also sacrifices her financial income and her blooming career so that she can help her daughter to look after her newborn baby, which is another traditional Chinese custom of the grandparents raising the grandchildren. The medium shot of Mrs Huang and her son-in-law dancing together next to the Christmas tree, with her daughter and step-grandchildren in the background, lucidly displays a united and harmonious family atmosphere that Mrs Huang cherishes.
- Some younger Chinese, particularly those who live overseas, do not cherish the traditional Chinese family value. Traditionally, marrying a partner from a different racial background is frowned upon. The title of a ‘step-mother’ embeds a negative connotation. Mrs Huang’s daughter does not care about following traditional Chinese family values, and marries a non-Chinese man as well as taking care of his children from his previous marriage, becoming a step-mother.
- Traditionally, men are superior to women as they are the only source of income for the family. Household chores are only the work of women. However, in the film, Frank’s ex-wife is the bread-winner of the household and he is the main carer for his daughter. The close-up shot of his daughter relaxing and enjoying Frank’s singing next to her, further enhances his enjoyment in this role as her main carer.

Section II — Reading and Responding

Part B

Question 5

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the issues raised in the text • Responds with a sophisticated level of ability to the opinions, ideas and information in the text • Composes a coherent argument demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of the text • Demonstrates a highly-developed understanding of context and audience • Demonstrates an excellent control of vocabulary and language structures 	13–15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies the main issues in the text • Responds lucidly to the opinions, ideas and information in the text • Composes an effective argument with close reference to the text • Writes effectively for the context and audience • Demonstrates an appropriate knowledge and understanding of language structures and vocabulary 	10–12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchanges information in response to the opinions, ideas and information in the text • Writes coherently and with some appropriate textual reference • Relates information to context and audience • Writes using a range of language structures and vocabulary 	7–9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to some opinions, ideas and information in the text • Demonstrates a limited ability to structure and sequence information and ideas • Demonstrates an awareness of context and audience 	4–6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some understanding of the text • Shows some evidence of the ability to organise information 	1–3

Answers could include:

Potential advantages of outsourcing:

- It reduces production costs of the mother company
- Make use of human and material resources in developing countries
- Increases the employment rate in developing countries.

Potential disadvantages of outsourcing:

- It reduces employment opportunities for the local people in the outsourcing countries
- The quality of product may not be consistent or up to standard
- Communication between countries can be difficult due to cultural differences and expectations.

Section III — Writing in Chinese

Questions 6–7

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writes perceptively for a specified context, purpose and audience • Demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the prescribed contemporary issues • Demonstrates a highly-developed control of language structures and vocabulary • Demonstrates flair and originality in the selection, presentation and development of ideas 	21–25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writes effectively for a context, purpose and audience • Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the prescribed contemporary issues • Demonstrates a well-developed control of language structures and vocabulary • Demonstrates originality in the selection and presentation of ideas 	16–20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writes original and interesting text appropriate to context, purpose and audience • Demonstrates a sound understanding of the prescribed contemporary issues • Demonstrates a satisfactory control of language structures and vocabulary • Demonstrates the ability to organise and express some ideas 	11–15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates an awareness of context, purpose and audience using only a narrow range of information and ideas • Uses a limited range of language structures and vocabulary to express ideas • Attempts to sequence and link ideas 	6–10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates a limited range of ideas with little attempt to organise and sequence material 	1–5

2021 HSC Chinese and Literature Mapping Grid

Section I — Listening and Responding Part A

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
1 (a)	2	The individual and the community — conversation	H3.1
1 (b)	3	The individual and the community — conversation	H3.1, H3.2
1 (c)	5	The individual and the community — conversation	H3.3, H3.7

Section I — Listening and Responding Part B

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
2	10	Youth culture — conversation/radio program	H3.2, H3.3, H3.4, H3.5, H3.8

Section II — Reading and Responding Part A

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
3 (a)	3	<i>American Dreams in China</i> (the individual and the community)	H3.1, H3.2
3 (b)	5	<i>American Dreams in China</i> (the individual and the community)	H3.1, H3.2, H3.3
3 (c)	7	<i>American Dreams in China</i> (the individual and the community)	H3.1, H3.2, H3.3, H3.4
4	25	<i>Chinatown Family and Finding Mr Right</i> (Perspectives on identity)	H3.1, H3.2, H3.3, H3.4, H3.6, H3.7, H3.8, H4.1

Section II — Reading and Responding Part B

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
5	15	Global issues — article/letter to the editor	H1.2, H2.1, H2.3, H3.8

Section III — Writing in Chinese

Question	Marks	Content	Syllabus outcomes
6	25	Youth culture — speech	H2.1, H2.2, H2.3, H2.4, H4.2
7	25	Perspectives on identity — speech	H2.1, H2.2, H2.3, H2.4, H4.2