

Liaison Meeting on Other Languages Examinations

5 July 2012

Duke of Windsor Social Service Building

Speakers:

Ms Christine Lee (Manager - School Examinations and Assessment Division)

Ms Anna Lee (Manager - Assessment Development Division)



香港考試及評核局
Hong Kong
Examinations and
Assessment Authority

Contents

- **Part I**
 - **Administrative Updates**
 - **Exam setting in Speaking Test**
 - **Clarification for the Japanese Language syllabus (8281)**
 - **Syllabus Grade Reporting**
- **Part II**
 - **Assessment at a Glance**
 - **Support Resources**
- **Q&A**



Syllabus Codes for 6 Other Languages

	Syllabus Code # for Nov exam	Syllabus Code # for Jun exam
French	8682	8272
German	8683	--
Hindi	8687	--
Japanese	8281	--
Spanish	8685	8895
Urdu	8686	--



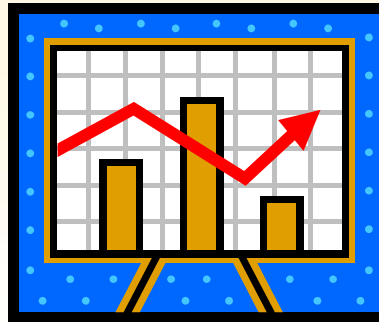
Liaison Meeting for Category C Subjects

- **Administrative Updates:**
 1. **Entry Figures of 2012 OL examinations**
 2. **Exam Timetable and Important Dates**
 3. **Written Exam Arrangement**
 4. **Speaking Test Arrangement**
 5. **Provisional Exam Timetable for June 2013 Series**



Category C Subjects (Nov. Series)

1. Entry Figures of 2012 60L examinations



Category C Subjects (2012 6OL exam)

- 1. Entry Figures

Subject	Code	No. of candidates	
		Nov Series	Jun Series
Japanese	8281	145	--
French	8682/8272	10	84
German	8683	3	--
Spanish	8685/8895	0	9
Urdu	8686	5	--
Hindi	8687	10	--
Total		173 (Nov) +93 (Jun) = <u>266</u>	



Category C Subjects (Nov. Series)

2. Exam Timetable and Important Dates



Category C Subjects (Nov. Series)

• 2. Exam Timetable and Important Dates

Subject Code	Exam Date	Exam Time	Duration
C8686/3 Urdu	17 Oct 2012	1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	1h30m
C8687/3 Hindi	17 Oct 2012	1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	1h30m
C8685/3 Spanish	17 Oct 2012	8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	1h30m
C8687/2 Hindi	22 Oct 2012	1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.	1h45m
C8686/2 Urdu	22 Oct 2012	1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.	1h45m
C8281/2 Japanese	25 Oct 2012	1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.	1h45m
C8682/2 French	29 Oct 2012	8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	1h45m
C8682/3 French	31 Oct 2012	8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	1h30m
C8683/2 German	1 Nov 2012	8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	1h45m
C8683/3 German	5 Nov 2012	8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	1h30m
C8281/3 Japanese	13 Nov 2012	1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	1h30m
C8685/2 Spanish	20 Nov 2012	8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.	1h45m



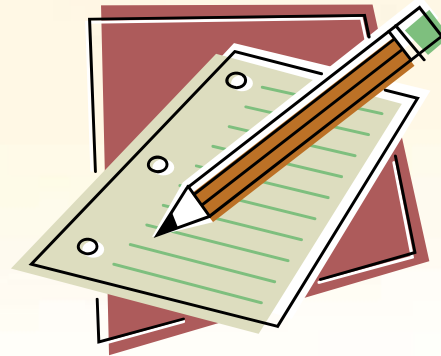
**Speaking Test Period:
15 October – 15 November 2012**

Category C Subjects (Nov. Series)

Events	Date
Admission Form + Instructions to Candidates	Late September/Early October 2012
Guidelines for Centre Supervisor/Invigilators	Late September/Early October 2012
Release of exam results	Early February 2013
Application Deadline for Rechecking/Remarking <i>(CIE: Enquiries about exam results)</i>	Within 7 days after the release of exam results
Release of Rechecking/Remarking Results	March 2013
Application Deadline for Appeal Review <i>(CIE: Appeals against the outcome of Enquiries about exam results)</i>	Within 7 days after the notification of the rechecking/remarking results
Release of Appeal Review Results	April 2013

Category C Subjects

3. Written Exam Arrangement



Category C Subjects

3. Written Exam Arrangement

A. Arrival Time of Candidates:

- Arrive the exam centre 15 minutes before the exam time (8:30 am/1:00 pm) shown in Admission Form.
- **Candidates who arrive after the starting time of an exam session should report to an invigilator running the exam. They may be allowed to enter the exam room and sit the exam but are required to file a report after the exam and state the reasons for being late. CIE reserves the right not to accept their answer scripts.**



Category C Subjects

3. Written Exam Arrangement

B. Early Leave of Candidates:

- **Candidates are not allowed to leave during the first 60 minutes and during the last 15 minutes of the session.** No candidates, including early leavers, are allowed to take away any question papers from the exam centre.

C. Exam Announcements:

- The announcements of the Centre Supervisors will be made in English in the exam.



Category C Subjects

3. Written Exam Arrangement

D. Exam Stationery:

- Correction pens, fluid or tape, erasable pens, highlighters or gel pens must not be used.
- Write in dark blue or black pen.

E. Other important regulations:

- Candidates must not discuss or disclose by any means the contents of the paper with any person who has not taken the examination for 24 hours after taking the examination. If you do so you will be **automatically disqualified from the subject** being taken.



Category C Subjects

4. Speaking Test Arrangement



Category C Subjects

4. Speaking Test Arrangement

- **A. Reporting Time:**
 - 15 minutes before the exam time shown in Admission Form
- **B. Exam Time:**
 - No preparation time is arranged
 - Around 20 minutes per session
- **C. Materials allowed in exam room:**
 - a 'cue card' (such as a postcard)
 - a limited quantity of illustrative materials, such as maps, diagrams, statistics, pictures or short articles.



Category C Subjects

D. Speaking Test Voice Recording Arrangement:

Equipment involved:

- A digital recorder with microphone
- A digital recorder for back-up
- To be controlled by the oral examiner
- Candidates should face the microphone and speak clearly



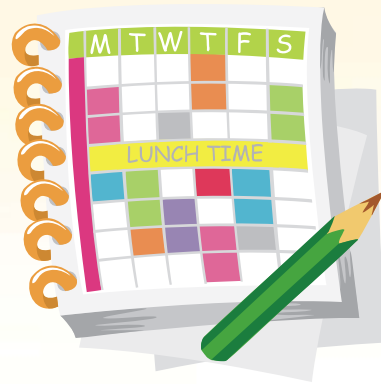
Purpose of recording:

- The recordings will be sent to CIE for internal and external moderation purpose and checking of examiners' standard
- NOT for re-marking / DAR purpose



Category C Subjects (June Series)

5. Provisional Exam Timetable for June Series



Category C Subjects (June Series)

5. Provisional CIE Exam Timetable

Subject	Date of Exam
8272 French 2	May 2013
8272 French 3	May 2013
8895 Spanish 2	May 2013
8895 Spanish 3	May 2013

Speaking Test Period: 1 April to 30 April 2013 (pending)

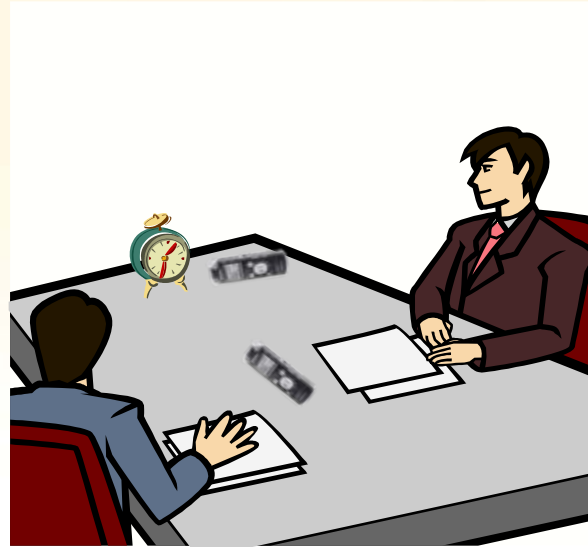
Registration Period: late September to mid October 2012



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Category C Subjects

Exam Setting in Speaking Test



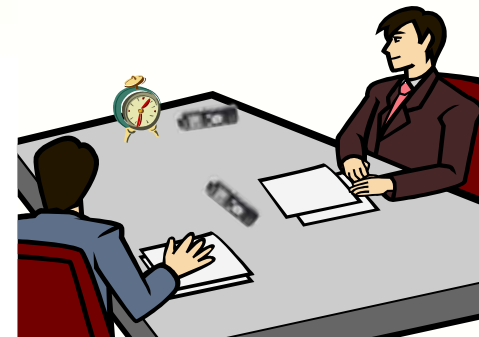
Exam setting in speaking test

- **November examinations 2012**
 - 15 October to 15 November
- June examinations 2013
 - 1 April to 30 April 2013 (pending)
- Will be informed of dates for speaking tests before the exam
- Examiners will **record ALL** the examinations and the recording sent to Cambridge for checking by moderator; make sure that you face the recorder and speak clearly



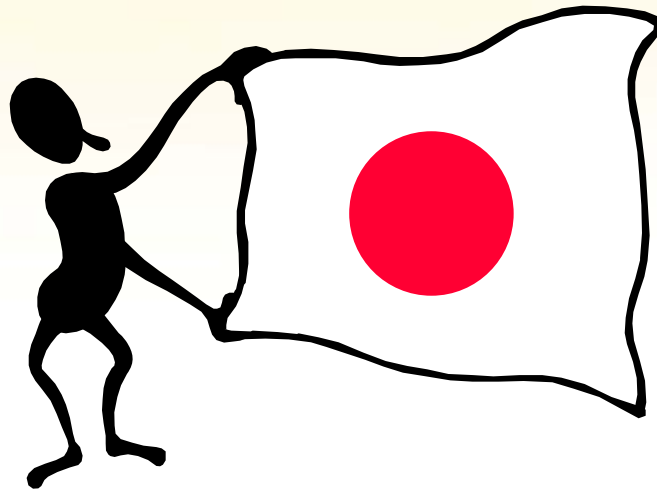
Exam setting in speaking test

- One-to-one examination
- Examiner will first confirm with the candidate their candidate number and name
- Examiner will start speaking out their candidate number and name for recording
- When the speaking test finished, the examiner will say “End of examination” and stop the recording.



Category C Subjects

Clarification for the Japanese Language (Syllabus 8281)



Clarification for the Japanese Language Syllabus 8281

- **Syllabus Section 5.2**

Component 2: Reading and Writing

- the two passages, taken together, will not exceed 750 words (1500 characters in Japanese)
- the last question will require candidates to write about 140 words (280 characters in Japanese), drawing information from both passages and adding their own opinions, (10 marks for information drawn from the passages, 5 marks for personal response to the material, and 5 marks for quality of language).



Clarification for the Japanese Language Syllabus 8281

- **Section 5.3 Component 3: Essay**
 - A question will be set on each of the five topics; candidates choose **one** question and write an essay in the target language of 250–400 words (600–800 characters in Japanese).



Syllabus grade reporting

- AS Level syllabus grade:
 - a(a), b(b), c(c), d(d) and e(e), with a(a) being the highest and e(e) the lowest
 - UNGRADED for performance below the standard required for a pass
- NO RESULT indicates that Cambridge cannot issue a result because of absence for the whole or part of the examination in the syllabus or because of a decision not to issue a result for some other reason.
- Separate oral endorsement grades:
 - Distinction, Merit and Pass
 - Candidates who are UNGRADED in the Speaking component will have no record of their Speaking performance printed on their Result Notice



Category C Subjects

Assessment at a glance



Assessment at a glance

- AS Language
- Scheme of assessment summary
 - Component 1: Speaking Test
 - 20 mins; 30%
 - Component 2: Reading & Writing
 - 1 ¾ hours; 50%
 - Component 3: Essay
 - 1.5 hours; 20%



Assessment at a glance

- All textual material used in the exams will be drawn from the 7 **Topic Areas**
 - Human relationships/Family/Generation gap/Young people
 - Patterns of daily life/Urban and rural life/The media/Food & drink/Law & order/Religion & belief/Health & fitness
 - Work & leisure/Equality of opportunity/Employment & unemployment/Sport/Free time activities/Travel & tourism/Education/Cultural life or heritage
 - War & peace/The developing World
 - Scientific & Medical advances/Technological innovation
 - Environment/Pollution/Conservation
 - Contemporary aspects of the country/countries where the language is spoken



Component 1 SPEAKING

- Raw marks 100, Weighting 30%, about 20 mins.
- Section 1: Presentation (20 marks)
 - Presentation of about 3 mins on a specific topic
- Section 2: Topic Conversation (40 marks)
 - Conversation on the chosen topic lasting 7-8 mins
- Section 3: General Conversation (40 marks)
 - Conversation on matters of general interest lasting 8-9 mins



Component 1 SPEAKING Section 1

- Section 1: Presentation (~ 3 mins, 20 marks)
 - Content & Presentation – 10 marks
 - Pronunciation & Intonation – 5 marks
 - Language – 5 marks



Component 1 SPEAKING Section 1

- Notes for Section 1 : Presentation
 - Must demonstrate knowledge of the contemporary society or cultural heritage of a country where the target language is spoken
 - Consider ways that a conversation about it might develop; Marks are awarded for the IDEAS and OPINIONS expressed
 - Good to give a structured presentation but not to write out and learn a speech by heart
 - ❌ A script of the presentation
 - ✅ Bring in a limited quantity of illustrative materials
 - ✅ Cue card with main points ≤ 5 headings



Component 1 SPEAKING Section 2

- Section 2: Topic Conversation (7-8mins, 40marks)
 - Comprehension and Responsiveness – 10 marks
 - Accuracy – 10 marks
 - Feel for the Language – 10 marks
 - Range of vocabulary and structures
 - Providing information and Opinions – 5 marks
 - Seeking Information and Opinions – 5 marks



Component 1 SPEAKING Section 2

- Notes for Section 2: Topic Conversation
 - Conversation about the chosen topic
 - Open-ended questions (with at least some unexpected questions)
 - Try to develop answers beyond simple short responses
 - Expand the conversation into other related areas, and to steer the conversation to some degree – higher band of the mark scheme
 - Ask questions at the end (See “Seeking information & Opinions” in mark scheme)



Component 1 SPEAKING Section 3

- **Section 3: General Conversation** (8-9mins, 40marks)
 - Comprehension and Responsiveness – 10 marks
 - Accuracy – 10 marks
 - Feel for the Language – 10 marks
 - Range of vocabulary and structures
 - Providing information and Opinions – 5 marks
 - Seeking Information and Opinions – 5 marks

(same as Section 2)



Component 1 SPEAKING Section 3

- Notes for **Section 3: General Conversation**
 - Fairly straightforward questions about your background and interests and will
 - Move quickly on to a more mature conversation discussing more abstract and/or current issues within general topic areas
 - Subject discussed will depend on interests and the subject of the presentation.
 - Discover whether students are able to talk easily and fluently on other less predictable subjects
 - If the topic asked is not one with which you feel particularly at ease, examiner will probably try a change of topic, **OR students could suggest a different area of interest themselves**
 - Extend responses & opportunities to develop the conversation in a direction you find interesting
 - **MUST** ask questions of the examiner; aim at 2-3 questions



Advice to students

- Don't choose a purely descriptive topic which tends to be over-factual
- Choose a conversation topic you will be less likely to experience difficulties with
- Do prepare the presentation but don't over-rehearse
- Cue cards can only contain 5 headings, not detailed notes
- Don't be content with a simple statement
- Must ask 2/3 questions in both sections 2,3
- Don't feel anxious; students are given every possible opportunity to communicate and achieve their potential



Component 2 READING & WRITING

- Raw marks 70, Weighting 50%, 1 hr 45 mins.
- **Section 1 (Passage 1)**
 - Q1, Q2 : Test of vocabulary recognition and grammatical manipulation (5 marks x 2)
 - Q3 : Comprehension questions (15 marks for content & 5 marks for quality of language)
- **Section 2 (Passage 2)**
 - Q4 : Comprehension questions (15 marks for content & 5 marks for quality of language)
 - Q5 : Directed summary using information from both passages and adding your personal opinion
(10 for content taken from passage, 5 for personal opinion & 5 for quality of language)



Component 2 READING & WRITING

- **Section 1 (Passage 1)**
 - Q1, Q2 : To understand the passage
 - Q3 : May relate directly to information in the passage, or may ask to draw conclusions or give further explanation (Same as Q4)
- **Section 2 (Passage 2)**
 - Q4 : Understanding of the passage & ability to express that understanding (Same as Q3)
- A word for word copying from the original does not show that you've understood
- A rewording or rephrasing of the original will demonstrate understanding
- Content marks : Choose relevant information
- Quality of Language marks : a concise answer contains all the elements (score 0 for content -> 0 for language marks)



Component 2 READING & WRITING

- Section 2 (Passage 2)
 - Q5 : Continuous writing task.
 - To draw material from both passages and reformulate it in your own words
 - To express a personal response to the issue raised by the passages



Advice to students

- Don't be too hurried to get to the questions
- Once you have the feel of the passage, study the questions carefully, paying attention to every word. Read the passage again and start answering the questions
- Answer all parts of each question
- Look at the mark allocation
- Keep to any word limit (Not mark anything beyond the upper word limit)



Component 3 ESSAY

- Raw marks 40, Weighting 20%, 1 hr 30 mins.
- A question will be set on each of the 5 topics; candidates choose one question and write an essay of **250-400 words** (Japanese language **600-800 characters**). (24 marks for quality of language & 16 marks for content)
- **Set topics for 2012:**
 - 1. Work and leisure / 2. Media / 3. Conservation / 4. Education / 5. Cultural life and heritage
- **Set topics for 2013:**
 - 1. Food and drink / 2. The developing world / 3. Travel and tourism / 4. Generation gap / 5. Equality of opportunity



Component 3 ESSAY

- The examination essay usually presents a title which requires commentary
- Asked to agree or disagree with the sentiments expressed, or to express your opinion on the subject matter
- No right or wrong answers to any title
- An essay is a formal piece of work
- Make sure there is “An Introduction”, “A Middle” & “A Conclusion”
- A brief note for the introduction; A topic sentence for each paragraph which follows



Component 3 ESSAY

- Language Marks (24 out of 40)
 - Accuracy, Fluency, Range
- Content Marks (16 out of 40)
 - Information/Focus/Relevance
 - Organisation/Structure/Argument



Word limit in Paper 2 & 3

- **No specific penalty for writing fewer** than the stipulated number of either Paper 2 or Paper 3, but the word limit gives candidates maximum scope to develop their answers and the opportunity to score marks.
- Words that write beyond the word limit will not be marked.



Category C Subjects

Support Resources



Support resources for examination

- Syllabus
- Specimen papers & Mark schemes
- Standards booklet (sample scripts, QP & MS)
- Past papers
- <http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk>
(link to HKDSE -> Subject information -> Cat. C Other Language Subjects)
- <http://www.cie.org.uk>
(link to “Cambridge International A and AS Level” -> “Subject”)
 - Syllabuses, Past Papers and Examiner Reports, FAQ



Q & A



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Hong Kong
Examinations and
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Contact

- **Subject Matters**

LEE, Anna

Manager – Assessment Development Division

Email: alee@hkeaa.edu.hk

- **Administration**

LEE, Christine

Manager – School Examinations and Assessment Division

Email: yhlee@hkeaa.edu.hk

