

**Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination English Language Subject Descriptors
(Summary)**

Level	General Description
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands a wide range of texts and speech on a range of topics in a variety of accents at near-native speed. Can identify attitudes and intentions and take relevant notes while listening. • Expresses a range of ideas well both in spoken and written English. Uses a wide vocabulary, accurate spelling and punctuation, and mainly correct grammar. Pronounces English well and can participate actively in discussions. <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Writing Sample Speaking Sample (Individual Response)</p>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands most simple texts and more complex texts on familiar topics. Understands speech delivered at moderate speed. Can identify functions of straightforward intonation and stress and take notes when information is given clearly. • Expresses most ideas clearly and correctly in both writing and speech. Writes with mostly correct grammar and makes few mistakes in spelling and punctuation. Pronounces familiar words well and can sustain conversations with sympathetic partners. <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Writing Sample Speaking Sample (Individual Response)</p>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands most of simple texts and some of more complex texts on familiar topics. Understands speech on familiar topics when delivered at moderate to slow pace. Can identify and record appropriate factual information when given clearly and slowly. • Expresses ideas reasonably clearly both in writing and speech. Basic grammatical structures, spelling and punctuation mainly correct. Pronounces most familiar words accurately and can take part in short conversational exchanges. <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Writing Sample Speaking Sample (Individual Response)</p>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands factual information in simple texts and slow speech on familiar topics. Can record simple, clearly expressed information. • Expresses some simple ideas in writing and speech, with some grammatical accuracy. Spelling of familiar words and punctuation mostly correct in writing. Pronounces some words accurately and can sustain short conversations on familiar topics. <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Writing Sample Speaking Sample (Individual Response)</p>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands and locates relevant information in simple texts where the vocabulary is familiar, and can follow simple written instructions. Understands slow and clear speech on familiar topics and can record some simple factual information. • Expresses some simple ideas on familiar topics in writing and speech with some accuracy in basic structures but with limited vocabulary. Can take part in short, predictable conversational exchanges if given support. <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Writing Sample Speaking Sample (Individual Response)</p>