

Practice Papers for GCSE Edexcel Chinese

Paper 3: Reading (Higher)

Simplified Character Version

Update v1.1, June 2023

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Teacher's Introduction

These practice papers for Edexcel GCSE Chinese (Paper 3, Higher) are designed to help students excel in the reading examination. The texts and activities in this resource mirror the structure of the reading exam.

The topics covered in this pack are taken from the 2017 GCSE Edexcel specification, and are the following:

1. Who am I?
2. Daily life
3. Cultural life
4. Holidays
5. Travel and tourist transactions
6. Town, region and country
7. What school is like
8. School activities
9. Using languages beyond the classroom
10. Ambitions
11. Work
12. Bringing the world together
13. Environmental issues

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

This resource contains three Higher practice papers using **simplified characters**. Full mark schemes are provided – these mirror the mark schemes provided by Edexcel.

The texts have been written to reflect the types of text used by Edexcel. They are followed by the types of activity that can be found in the reading exam, such as comprehension questions, fill in the blanks and multiple-choice questions. A wide range of question styles used by Edexcel can be found across the three practice papers.

Literary texts and translation tasks are also included to prepare students fully for the new Edexcel exams.

How to use this resource

Set the paper under exam conditions to give students an idea of what level they are working at. Go over the answers in class to identify strengths and weaknesses, and to practise strategies, such as:

- reading the questions and predicting plausible answers before reading the text
- applying a mixture of grammatical awareness and common sense to questions where you choose from a list of words (does the gap need a verb/noun/adjective?)
- using the context to aid intelligent guessing

Students should be encouraged to note down any new vocabulary from the questions they got wrong and learn it. The same paper could be used again a couple of months later and students could aim to improve their marks.

The papers can also be used in mock exams or for independent preparation.

May 2019

Update v1.1, June 2023

- Some traditional characters in reading texts corrected to simplified characters on pages 3, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16 and 17
- Answers corrected on pages 41 and 43

Free Updates!

Register your email address to receive any future free updates* made to this resource or other Chinese resources your school has purchased, and details of any promotions for your subject.

* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

Go to zzed.uk/freeupdates

ZigZag Practice Exam

Supporting GCSE (9–1) Edexcel

Chinese Practice Papers

Reading

Practice Paper B

Name

Time allowed

1 hour and 5 minutes

Instructions

Answer **all** of the questions and use the space provided.

You should write your answers in black ink.

You must use a dictionary.

Information

There are two versions of text provided: **TRADITIONAL** characters and **SIMPLIFIED** characters.

The total number of marks available for this paper is **50**.

The number of marks available for each question is shown in brackets. You are advised to keep this in mind when allocating your time.

In Sections A and B, answer **all** the questions in English.

Spend around 15 minutes on the translation.

Before you write your answer, read each question and prompt very carefully.

Double-check your answers if you have time at the end.

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School clubs

1. Read the text in which Li Qiang talks about his extracurricular activities.

课外活动

我叫李强。我是十一岁的小学生。我天天坐校车去上学。作业太多了，我们下午四点才下课，下课以后休息十五分钟。

我最喜欢的活动是音乐。我从七岁开始学弹钢琴。除了音乐，我还喜欢书法。我对中国传统文化很感兴趣，每个星期三，我和同学一起练书法。

周末我一般做作业。作业很多。我觉得最难的作业是英语作文。

- a. What does Li Qiang do first? His class finishes at 4pm?

.....

- b. How old was Li Qiang when he started playing the piano?

.....

- c. What homework does Li Qiang find the most difficult?

.....

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A happy family

2. Read this letter in which Li Na talks about her family.

今天我介绍我的家人。我的家非常传统。我们家有五口人，有我爸爸妈妈，姐姐和奶奶。奶奶今年八十七岁了，还都打太极拳。

我们很漂亮，妈妈每个星期都买鲜花。我的卧室是书桌，还有我的玩具熊。

我们一家星期天常常去公园散步，打羽毛球。午饭我们吃中餐。我爸爸次次都要烤鸭，妈妈说他们的鱼做得好，他们的面条。

我有一个幸福的家。

Select the correct answer by putting a cross (X) in the corresponding box.

Example: In Li Na's family there are ... people.

	A	one
	B	four
X	C	five
	D	three

a. Li Na has...

	A	a younger sister
	B	a younger brother
	C	an older sister
	D	an older brother

b. Her grandmother enjoys ...

	A	cooking
	B	cycling
	C	sports
	D	sleeping

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- c. Every week her mother buys fresh...

	A	flowers
	B	fruit
	C	cakes
	D	dumplings

- d. In Li Na's room there is...

	A	computer
	B	window
	C	garden
	D	bed

- e. The family often goes to the park to play...

	A	tennis
	B	badminton
	C	football
	D	basketball

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Visiting Xi'an

3. Read the extract about two students' experiences in Xi'an.

佩佩和丽莎上个学期到中国学习中文。他们在中国生
去了北京，然后坐飞机到西安。到了西安就开始上课
时汉语课，下午有一个文化课。她们很快交了很
国朋友家吃饭。中文进步很快。

eat food	culture	Shanghai
Beijing	study Chinese	aeroplane
train	last year	Hong Kong

Complete the sentences below.

Example: Pei Pei and Li Sha went to China to study Chinese.

- a. Pei Pei and Li Sha went to China
- b. First they went to
- c. They travelled to Xi'an by
- d. As well as Chinese language, they also attended a class in
- e. They often went to their friends' houses to

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Jealous neighbours

4. Read the text about a person's childhood memories.

我上中学的时候, 家里买了一个电视机。电视不大, 是黑视的人很少, 所以每个星期六, 我们的邻居, 朋友, 都会跟我们一起看节目, 吃东西, 聊天。那个时候, 每个人都很高兴。晚上十点钟以后就没有什么节目可以看了。

现在不一样了, 家家都有电视, 什么时候都有节目可以看了。

Answer each of the following questions in English. You do not have to write

- a. What were the neighbours jealous about?

.....

- b. Where did all the neighbours go?

.....

- c. What happened after 10pm?

.....

- d. What is the difference between when the writer was at school and now?

.....

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5. Read the diary extract, in which Lewen tells us about her pet.

我的小猫

我五岁的时候爸爸妈妈给我买了一只小猫,我叫它 Horace。我爸爸妈妈在生我接我的时候,从那天开始,我和小猫猫非常非常喜欢出去在外面跑,经常很晚才回家。有的时候它。Horace 在家陪我的时候对我非常好,又友好又有礼貌孩子,我就打算给他们一只猫。

Answer each of the following questions in English. You do not have to write

- a. What did Lewen's parents buy for her?

.....

- b. Where did Lewen first see her new friend?

.....

- c. Why as Lewen sometimes worried about her new friend?

.....

- d. What is Horace like? [Mention one thing.]

.....

- e. What does Lewen plan to do if she ever has children?

.....

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My mother

6. Read the extract from a story by the author Lin Ching-hsuan.

小时候我的身体不好，常常生病，妈妈对我的希望只有大。我记得有一年春节，我病了。因为放假，很多医生着我，走了十几公里到城里，最后才找到医生。

开始以后，我的身体变得非常健康，两三年都不生病，总是学校的第一名。不过妈妈还是担心我，因为我起玩，总是自己一个人玩。

Select the correct answer by putting a cross (X) in the corresponding box.

Example: The author had trouble with his health...

	A	after turning 30
	B	as a baby
X	C	when he was young
	D	after he retired

a. His mother hoped that he would grow up to be...

	A	healthy
	B	successful
	C	rich
	D	happy

b. When he got ill during the holiday he was able to get to a doctor by...

	A	taking a taxi
	B	walking for many hours
	C	cycling
	D	being carried by his mother

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- c. Eventually, as he grew older, he went without being ill for...

	A	10 years
	B	23 years
	C	32 years
	D	2 to 3 years

- d. He always came from...

	A	running
	B	tests
	C	sports competitions
	D	fashion shows

- e. Even when he was better, his mother worried about him because...

	A	he could not speak
	B	he did not do any sports
	C	he was often on his own
	D	he did not eat a lot

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Places around town

7. Read the classmates' opinions about the places around their home town.

刘伟 我昨天去了我们家附近新开的电影院。电影院在漂亮，椅子也特别舒服。

王芳 我每周都和爸妈一起去超级市场买东西。我不喜欢去那里，因为天天都开着空调，气味很不好。

美玉 妹妹每个星期要我陪她去图书馆借书。妹妹说图书馆太无聊了，没有时间我喜欢去的地方！我不同意，看书太无聊了，有时间我喜欢去的地方！

金龙 爸爸最喜欢跟我去公园跑步。公园里树多，草地很干净，所以非常干净。

Who says what? Choose from Liu Wei, Wang Fang, Meiyu and Jin Long. You can use each name once.

Example: Liu Wei has been to the new cinema.

- a. thinks the park is clean.
- b. talks about a place that is very cold.
- c. went to a facility inside an old building.
- d. does not like reading.

Answer the following questions in English.

- e. Why does Meiyu disagree with her sister?
.....
- f. What are the chairs in the new cinema like?
.....


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Differences between English food and Chinese food

8. Read the letter from Feifei, who recently visited England and is talking about

我上个月去了英国。在那儿玩得很开心，也吃得不错。英国的很不一样。在家我的家人喜欢去菜市场买菜，到了所有的东西。我也觉得英国的水果和青菜比中国的贵得在英国吃得比较少。我每天习惯用筷子吃饭，在英国只用两，所以不能一边吃饭一边玩手机！

庆祝节日的时候食物也很不一样，中国人过节时要吃饺子要吃烤火鸡和土豆。

Answer the following questions in English. You do not need to write in full sentences.

- a. What does Feifei think about the food in England?

.....

- b. How do people shop for food in China?

.....

- c. When does she eat fruit?

.....

- d. What's the problem with using a knife and fork to eat?

.....

- e. What foods are eaten during festivals in China, according to Feifei? [Maximum 10 words]

.....

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Trendy clothes

9. Read the extract from a Shanghai fashion blog.

同学们好，

希望大家喜欢我今天穿的衣服，今天我们来谈谈时尚。

今年穿白色，黑色和红色的衣服很时尚。上海年轻人今年衬衫，裙子，都比去年长，这样可以看起来高一些。不少中国，美国的衣服，像一千多年前的人穿的衣服一样。

那么什么不流行了呢？你会看到，运动鞋已经不见了。你

今年上海时装周，男生和女生穿的衣服越来越像，你们觉

a. What does this passage tell us?

Put a cross (X) next to each one of the three correct statements.

A	Trainers are not as popular as they used to be.
B	Green has become a trend colour.
C	Many people are wearing glasses.
D	Male and female clothes are increasingly similar.
E	Big hats are worn by many.
F	There was a fashion event in Shanghai this year.
G	Spotted shirts are very popular in Shanghai.

Answer the following questions in English.

b. Why are long clothes becoming popular?

.....

c. What particular clothes have become popular with people above the age of 40?

.....

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10. Translate this passage into English.

我的新邻居以前住在伦敦南边，为了给孩子找一个好学
他家的男孩子跟我差不多大，不过没有我高。现在我们
候一起玩游戏。



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ZigZag Practice Exam

Supporting GCSE (9–1) Edexcel

Chinese Practice Papers

Reading

Practice Paper C

Name

Time allowed

1 hour and 5 minutes

Instructions

Answer **all** of the questions and use the space provided.

You should write your answers in black ink.

You must use a dictionary.

Information

There are two versions of text provided: **TRADITIONAL** characters and **SIMPLIFIED** characters.

The total number of marks available for this paper is **50**.

The number of marks available for each question is shown in brackets. You are advised to keep this in mind when allocating your time.

In Sections A and B, answer **all** the questions in English.

Spend around 15 minutes on the translation.

Before you write your answer, read each question and prompt very carefully.

Double-check your answers if you have time at the end.

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New friends

1. Read the extract from a diary in which Xiuying discusses her hobbies.

学校的书法活动开始了！昨天我第一参加，发现写书说写汉字很重要，送给我一枝毛笔，我非常喜欢这个礼物。书法是每个星期三下午四点到五点，就在学校的图书馆，以前在香港大学工作。她教得很好！

- a. What new activity does Xiuying do?

.....

- b. How does Xiuying feel about the present from her mother?

.....

- c. On which day does this activity run?

.....

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Party time

2. Read this letter in which Zaheer talks about his birthday party.

朋友们好！

昨天是我的十七岁的生日。我有一个很大的生日会。因为生日会是在外面的餐馆开的。

我的同学同学都来参加了。他们送给我很多礼物，我最糕，太好吃了。餐馆的食物也不错，我们吃了烤鸭和羊

今天是星期天，早上妈妈对我说：‘快上大学了，你应该

Select the correct answer by putting a cross (X) in the corresponding box.

Example: Last week Zaheer turned...

	A	7
	B	70
X	C	17
	D	

- a. The birthday party took place...

	A	at home
	B	at a friend's home
	C	at school
	D	in a restaurant

- b. Zaheer invited his...

	A	girlfriend
	B	cousins
	C	brothers and sisters
	D	classmates

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c. At the party they ate...

	A	roast duck
	B	fried chicken
	C	dumplings
	D	noodles

d. Zaheer's birthday is on...

	A	Thursday
	B	Friday
	C	Sunday
	D	Saturday

e. Today Zaheer's mum told him to...

	A	learn to drive
	B	cook for the family
	C	take the dog out
	D	go to university

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A bad experience

3. Read the email complaining about a hotel room.

经理先生, 您好!

我在你们的酒店住了三天。虽然窗外的风景很漂亮, 但晚上很吵。楼下有人十二点还在听音乐。第二, 床很不舒服。而且, 价格也很贵, 所以我很不满意。

我刚刚发现, 我的钱包不见了, 可能还在酒店的房间里。我的房间是 1803。

等您的电邮!

passport	wallet	bed
pretty	popular	speaking loud
three	listen to music	disappointing

Complete the sentences below.

Example In recent years Airbnb has become very popular.

- The author stayed days at the hotel.
- The view was very
- Downstairs there were people
- The was uncomfortable.
- The author lost his at the hotel.

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4. Read the extract from the story *Letter to My Father*.

昨晚到的时候，我们的飞机是唯一的飞机。飞机
字的黑鸟，飞过来飞过去。我们租的房子离机场
到的时候已经很晚，邻居送来意大利面和沙拉，
早上醒来，窗外的小鸟在唱歌。我走出房子，发
的大花园。

(严歌苓 给爸爸的信)

Answer each of the following questions in **English**. You do not have to write

- a. What did they see around the airport?

.....

- b. Where does the author live in relation to the airport?

.....

- c. What foods did the neighbours bring? [Write **two** foods.]

.....

- d. What did the author discover in the back garden?

.....

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5. Read the leaflet about a campaign to save the planet.

不要浪费！

全球人民，听我说，我们地球自然资源快没有了。每辆车的尾气，每座城市的污染，不能继续这样为了我们的地球，希望大家接下来在家里或在工电。也希望我们都能少点开车，多坐公共交通。都应该多回收，以免浪费。煤气是最不好的资源能和水能的自然资源。

希望大家想做绿色环保的人，一起解决环境问题

Answer each of the following questions in English. You do not have to write

- a. What does the article blame for environmental issues on? [Mention one thing]

.....

- b. What should people start using less water and electricity?

.....

- c. Apart from using less water and electricity, how else can people help improve

.....

- d. What is the worst resource, according to the article?

.....

- e. What does the article encourage everybody to be?

.....

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Drinking water

6. Read the extract from a story about why children should drink water.

天气越来越干，孩子的妈妈每天晚上都会给孩子喝点儿水。因为白天玩了一天，孩子睡觉的时候不想睡，妈妈给她一口水就哭着说：‘我不喝！’妈妈说：‘水不热。’孩子还是喝冷水。孩子说：‘妈妈又说：‘也不是冷水，不冷不热，也不是温水，温水是洗澡水。孩子看见妈妈笑了，他们

Select the correct answer by putting a cross (X) in the corresponding box.

Example: The weather was getting...

	A	more humid
	B	warmer
X	C	drier
	D	colder

- a. The mother wanted her child to drink water...

		in the morning
	B	before going to bed
	C	every hour
	D	at lunchtime

- b. The child...

	A	chose to drink a lot of water
	B	preferred to drink milk
	C	fell asleep straight away
	D	did not want to drink water

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- c. The child did not want to drink cool water because...

	A	her stomach would hurt
	B	the weather was too cold
	C	it is not tasty
	D	it hurts her teeth

- d. The child said hot water was for...

	A	drinking
	B	showering
	C	cooking
	D	making tea

- e. Both the child and the mother...

	A	started to cry
	B	fell asleep
	C	started to laugh
	D	went out to the garden

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Family ambitions

7. Read the classmates' discussion about their hopes and ambitions for the future.

- 刘伟 我以后特别想去美国上大学读物理。将来我希望成为科学家。
- 王芳 我爸妈希望我去日本留学，他们说会说日语，将来可以当翻译。
- 美玉 我家没人会做什么都行，开心就好。我还不知道将来想做什么。
- 金龙 我现在的兼职工作是售货员。将来我想当演员，成为明星。

Who says what? Choose from Liu Wei, Wang Fang, Meiyu and Jin Long. You can use a name more than once.

Example: Liu Wei wants to study in the USA.

- a. has parents who want to send her to Japan.
- b. has ambitions of becoming famous one day.
- c. is not too sure about what to do in the future.
- d. already has part-time work experience.

Answer the following questions in Chinese.

- e. What are the advantages of working in Japan?

- f. How does Liu Wei hope to help with environmental issues?

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London Olympics

8. Read the letter from Xiao Wang, who talks about the differences between the Olympic Games.

大家好！

我是小王。二零零八年我参加过北京的奥运会，二零一
得非常有意思。我觉得这两个城市很不一样。比如说气
也常常下雨。北京夏天热极了，做运动很累。北京奥运
为中国人很喜欢。伦敦的奥运会七月就开始了。我觉
家可以在一起比赛，互相了解，认识新的朋友。但是奥
很多体育馆开完奥运会就没有用了。

Answer the following questions in **English**. You do not need to write in full sentences.

- a. What does Xiao Wang say about the weather in London?

.....

- b. What was the disadvantage of the weather during the Beijing Olympics?

.....

- c. When did the Beijing Olympics start?

.....

- d. What is one advantage, according to Xiao Wang?

.....

- e. What is one of the disadvantages of this type of event? [Mention one disadvantage.]

.....

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Opening a shop

9. Read the text in which Fang Fang recounts a conversation with her friend.

星期天，我接到李志的电话，他说：‘小王新开了一个服
们去看看。’我十分高兴地答应了。

十一点我们到了店里。小王带我们在店里参观，当我
李志说：‘我们买一双袜子吧!’我觉得奇怪，李志解释说
来应 一点儿东西。我们每人买一双袜子吧!’我明白
笑，他说：‘谢谢你们，但是这些袜子是免费送给顾客的。

- a. What does this passage tell us?

Put a cross (X) next to each one of the three correct statements.

A	They could not buy socks.
B	The shop sells a range of jumpers.
C	The clothes sold are very expensive.
D	They are very excited about a new shop opening.
E	The shop's location is very convenient.
F	The shop opened on a Sunday.
G	The shop also sells food.

Answer the following questions in English.

- b. Why did Xiao Wang laugh?

.....

- c. What do they have to do to get a pair of socks?

.....

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10. Translate this passage into English.

我工作天天又累又忙，不知道选择吃什么，日常生活吃
说我应该多吃沙拉，水果，不要天天去外卖店，也说我

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Mark Schemes

Practice Paper A

Question 1	Accept
a	underground subway
b	weekend(s)
c	(too many) cars

Question 2	Accept
a	A
b	C
c	B
d	D
e	B

Question 3.1	Accept	Reject
a	Chinese	
b	one hour	
c	running	
d	no homework	

Question 4	Accept
a	Meimei
b	Zhang Shan
c	Ningning
d	Wang Li
e	Ningning

Question 5	Accept
a	father/dad (started) new job
b	at his new school
c	15 (years old)
d	music
e	(to be) a doctor, (to) help other people (choose one)

Question 6	Accept	Reject
a	C	
b	D	
c	D	
d	A	
e		

Question 7	Accept
a	Jin Long
b	Wang Fang
c	Meiyu
d	Liu Wei
e	too small, tiring to use
f	boring / she would be bored

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Question 8	Accept
a	running, jogging, a race
b	run, walk, (be in the) audience
c	1 st June, afternoon, 3 o'clock
d	(travel) bag
e	advice, follow-up

Question 9	Accept
a	A, D, F
b	do not exchange emails / phone numbers, they (take) and add (each other) on WeChat
c	(it is a waste) of time / it is unsafe

Question 10	Indicative content
Accept any other reasonable alternatives.	When I was little/young I wanted to be an actor / an actress.
	(I) thought (that) their life/lives was/were definitely very fun/
	Now my ideal/ambition is not the same anymore;
	if I work in (a) school, I can help students get/obtain good grades (to) change their lives.

Question 10	Mark scheme
7 marks	The candidate has fully conveyed the meaning of the text. If there are mistakes, they do not affect the overall accuracy of the response.
5–6 marks	The candidate has mostly conveyed the meaning of the text. There are occasional mistakes that hinder clarity, such as inexact words, or the use of inaccurate syntax.
3–4 marks	The candidate has partially conveyed the meaning of the text. There are some mistakes that hinder communication, such as missing words, the absence of some sentences/expressions, or the use of incorrect words.
1–2 marks	The candidate has translated only parts of sentences or isolated words. There are frequent mistakes that hinder communication of meaning.
0	The candidate has not answered / the answer is incomprehensible.

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