THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF TANZANIA

CANDIDATES' ITEM RESPONSE ANALYSIS REPORT FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION (CSEE) 2022

CHINESE LANGUAGE

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026 CHINESE LANGUAGE

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FOREWORD

This report on the performance of the candidates in the Form Four National Examination (CSEE) for 2022 in the Chinese Language subject has been prepared by the Nation Examinations Council in order to provide feedback to school quality assurers, educational administrators, school managers, teachers, students and other educational stakeholders on the students' abilities and challenges in attempting the examination questions.

The analysis has been carried out in order to indicate the candidates' strengths and weaknesses in answering the examination questions. It further shows well-performed, averagely and weakly performed questions. The good performance was due to the candidates' ability to answer the questions according to the requirements as well as their competence in the Chinese Language. However, those who had weak performance failed to comprehend the requirement of the questions and lacked knowledge of the Chinese grammatical rules and vocabulary.

It is expected that the analysis done will help Chinese teachers and all educational stakeholders to improve the teaching and learning strategies of Chinese Language and therefore improve the candidates' performance in this subject.

Finally, the Council would like to acknowledge the examiners and all those who have in one way or another contributed to the preparation of this report.

Dr. Said A. Mohamed
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report analyses the performance of the students who sat for the Certificate of Secondary Education Examination (CSEE) in the Chinese Language subject in 2022. The examination was set according to the 2015 Chinese Language syllabus.

The examination of Chinese Language subject comprised 13 compulsory questions. The questions were divided into five sections: A *Comprehension*, B *Patterns and Vocabulary*, C *Grammar patterns*, D *Language Use* and E *Composition*. Section A had 2 questions; question 1 and question 2 where each carried 10 marks, thereby making a total of 20 marks. Section B comprised 3 questions; questions 3, 4 and 5. Question 3 and 4 carried 5 marks each and question 5 carried 10 marks, thus making a total of 20 marks. Section C had 3 questions: questions 6 and 7 which carried 5 marks each and question 8 carried 10 marks, making a total of 20 marks. Section D had 3 questions: questions 9 and 10 where each weighed 5 marks and question 11 carried 10 marks, making a total of 20 marks. Section E consisted of 2 questions: question 12 and 13 where each question carried 10 marks, thus making a total of 20 marks.

This analysis indicates the candidates' performance in each item by showing their weaknesses and strengths in answering the questions. Sample extracts from the scripts of the candidates' responses have been presented so as to provide a general overview of how the candidates responded to questions in accordance to the requirement of each question.

The candidates' performance has been grouped in three categories: The performance from 65 to 100 percent is categorized as *good*, from 30 to 64 percent as *average* and from 0 to 29 percent as *weak*. Three different colours have been used to represent the candidates' performance: *green* shows a good performance; *yellow* indicates an average performance while *red* indicates a weak performance. The candidates' performance in each topic is summarized in the Appendices I and II.

A total of 324 candidates were registered for the Form Four National Examination in 2022, whereby 309 candidates sat for the examination. The analysis shows that, the general performance in this year was good because 296 (95.8%) candidates passed the examination and only 13 (4.2%) candidates failed.

Table 1: Candidates' Pass Grades in CSEE 2021 and 2022

Year	Sat	Grades				
		A	B	C	D	F
2021	473	75	50	147	148	53
2022	309	51	64	118	63	13

Table 1 shows the performance of the candidates in 2022 and 2021. The performance of the candidates who scored grade B increased from 50 in 2021 to 64 candidates in 2022. In grades D and F, the candidates' performance decreased from 148 to 63 candidates and from 53 to 13 candidates, respectively.

2.0 ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES' RESPONSE IN EACH QUESTION

2.1 SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

This section comprised two questions: questions 1 and 2 in which the candidates were required to read the passage and answer the questions given. Each question carried 10 marks, thus making a total of 20 marks.

2.1.1 Question 1: Multiple Choice Items

In this question, the candidates were required to read the passage and answer the questions by using Chinese characters. The passage was about Ana and her sisters' plan to go to China during holiday. The question was derived from the topic of Travel and Custom. It tested the candidate's ability to give information about a trip. The question was as follows:

一． 阅读短文，回答问题。根据短文,用汉字填空。

Wǒ jiào Ānān， jīn nián shí jiǔ suì， shì Tǎnsāng níyà rén。 Wǒ de péngyou Lìlì shì
我叫 安安，今年 十九岁，是坦 桑 尼亚人。我的 朋 友 丽 丽是

Zhōngguó rén， tā jiā zài Shànghǎi。Wǒ méi qù guò Shànghǎi， dàn shì qùguò Běijīng hé
中 国人， 她家在 上 海。我 没 去过 上 海， 但 是去过 北京和

Guǎngzhōu。Guǎngzhōu bú tài dà， Běijīng dà de bù dé liǎo， Guǎngzhōu xià tiān bǐ Běijīng
广 州。 广 州不太大，北京大得不 得 了， 广 州 夏天 比北京

rè dé duō。 Jià qī dào le， wǒ yào gēn jiějie yì qǐ qù Zhōngguó，cóng Tǎnsāng ní yà dào
热得多。假期 到了， 我要 跟姐姐一起去 中国，从·坦桑尼亚到

Běijīng zuò fēi jī yào shí qī gè xiǎo shí。Wǒmen yào zài Běijīng tíngliú yí gè xīngqī, jiějiexiǎng
北京 坐飞机要十七个 小时。我们 要 在北京停留一个星期，姐姐想

cān guān Gùgōng， hái xiǎng qù Chángchéng。Wǒmen hái yào cóng Běijīng dào Shànghǎi qù，
参观 故宫，还想 去长 城。 我 们 还要 从 北京到上 海去，

wǒ gěi Lìlì fā le diàn zǐ yóu jiàn， wǒmen zài jī chǎng jiànmiàn， dà jiā dōu hěn gāo xìng。
我给 丽丽 发了电子 邮件，我们 在机场 见 面，大家都 很 高兴。

Lì rú： Ānān jīn nián suì。
例如：安安 今年 十九岁。

　　Lìlì jiā zài Zhōngguó de
1. 丽丽家在 中国 的_____。

　　Guǎngzhōu xià tiān bǐ Běijīng dé duō。
2. 广 州 夏天比北京_____得多。

　　Ānān hé jiějie cóng Tǎnsāng ní yà dào Běijīng zuò fēi jī yào gè xiǎo shí。
3. 安安和 姐姐从 坦桑尼亚到北京 坐飞机要_____个小时。

　　Jiějie xiǎng qù cān guān hái xiǎng qù Chángchéng。
4. 姐姐想 去 参观_____，还想 去 长 城。

　　Jià qī dào le， Ānān hé jiějie yào qù Zhōngguó de gè chéngshì。
5. 假期到了，安安和 姐姐要去 中 国的_____个城市。

The question was attempted by 309 (100%) candidates, out of whom 206 (66.7%) scored from 7 to 10 marks, which is a good performance, 93 (30.1%) candidates performed averagely by scoring from 3 to 6 marks and 10 (3.2%) candidates scored from 0 to 2 which is a weak performance. The general performance in this question was good since 299 (96.8%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 1 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 1.
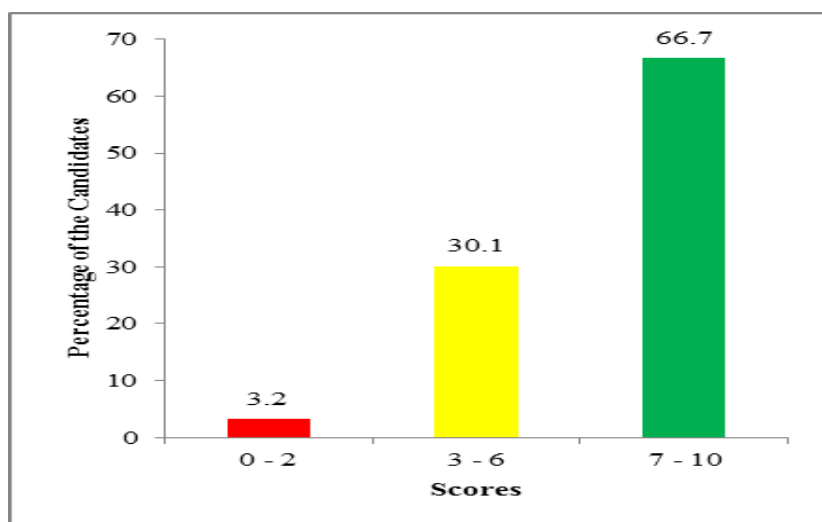
Figure 1: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 1*

The data analysis indicates that, 206 (66.7%) candidates who had a good performance scored from 7 to 10 marks. These candidates wrote Chinese characters correctly because they comprehended the passage and managed to answer correctly in all items. Extract 1.1 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 1.

Extract 1.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 1.

In Extract 1.1, the candidate responded correctly in all items.

Furthermore, the data analysis indicates that 93 (30.1%) candidates had an average performance as they scored from 3 to 6 marks. These candidates had partial knowledge of reading for comprehension. Thus, they wrote correct answers in some items and failed in others. Most of the candidates failed in item 1 and 5. In item 1, the candidates were required to write a name of Lili's city which was 上海 (Shanghai) but some candidates wrote an incomplete character 海. Some of them dropped some strokes while others wrote incorrect answers as one of them wrote 城市 (City).

In item 5, the candidates were required to write the numbers of cities where Ana and her elder sister were planning to visit. The correct answer was 两 (two/miwili) but most of the candidates wrote 二 (two/mbili) which was wrong because 二 cannot be used with a measure word 个. Extract 1.2 is a sample from a candidate who performed averagely in question 1.

Extract 1.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with average performance in question 1.

In Extract 1.2, the candidate wrote correct answers in items 2, 3 and 4 but failed in items 1 and 5.

Moreover, the data analysis reveals that 10 (3.2%) candidates had weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. These candidates did not understand the passage and the requirement

of the questions hence ended up writing answer by guessing. Some candidates copied Chinese characters form the question paper and others wrote incorrect characters. For example, in item 1, the candidates were required to mention the name of Lili's home place. They scored 0 because they failed to notice that the statement 她家在上海 (her home is in Shanghai) in the passage was talking about Lili's home place. They failed to identify that 她 (she) was referring to Lili. One candidate wrote 在上 (it is up) which was an incorrect answer.

In item 2, the candidates were required to compare the weather of Guangzhou and Beijing. The candidates who scored 0 had insufficient knowledge of Chinese vocabulary and sentence structure. They also did not master a comparative sentence 比字句 of (A 比 B Adj). This reveals that they were not aware that an adjective 热（hot）was talking about weather between Guangzhou and Beijing. Some of the candidates were not conversant with the radical ⺟ hence failed to write the correct answer.

In item 3, the candidates were required to mention how many hours does it take on flight from Tanzania to Beijing. They failed to identify the mentioned hours which was 十七 (17 hours). One student wrote 丽丽是中国人 (Lili is a Chinese) which was not correct. This proves that the candidate did not understand the statement given.

In item 4, the question required the candidates to mention a place where Ana's elder sister wants to visit while in Beijing. The candidates failed to find the answer from the passage because they were not aware that 故宫 (Palace) and 长城 (Great Wall) are places in Beijing where Anna's elder sister planned to visit.

In item 5, the candidates were required to identify numbers of the cities that Ana and her elder sister were planning to visit.

Those who scored 0 did not understand the passage as well as the meaning of the question. Some of the candidates in this category wrote an incorrect answer 今年十九 (19 years old this year). These candidates could not distinguish between Ana's age and the hours required to fry from Tanzania to Beijing. Extract 1.3, is a sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 1.

一1	Za lia zài 家 在 上		
2.	rè de 热 得		
3.	Li chí zhōngguo ren 丽朋 是 中 国 人		
4	Gùgōng, 古宫,		
5.	Jin nian shr jiǔ 今 年 十 九		

Extract 1.3: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 1.

In Extract 1.3, the candidate filled incorrect answers in all items.

2.1.2 Question 2: Reading the passage and Answering Questions Using Chinese Characters

The question instructed the candidates to read the passage and answer the questions given by using Chinese characters. The passage was about Xiaoming's city environment. The question was set from the topic of City and Environment. This question tested the candidate's ability to describe the city and its environment. The question was as follow:

二. 阅读短文，用汉字回答问题。

Xiǎomíng jiā zài Shànghǎi de jiāoqū,　lí shìzhōngxīn hěn yuǎn.　Xiǎomíng měi tiān zuò gōnggòng
小明　家在　上海　的郊区，离市中心　很远。小明　每天坐　公共

qìchē qù xuéxiào shàngkè. Xiǎomíng de bàba　měi tiān zǎoshang　liù diǎn qǐchuáng kāi chē qù shì
汽车 去 学校 上课。小明 的爸爸 每天　早上　六点 起床　开车去市

zhōngxīn gōngzuò. Jiāoqū méi yǒu wū rǎn. Chūntiān,　jiāoqū hěn piàoliang, yǒu hóng sè de huā hé lǜ sè
中心　工作。郊区 没 有 污染。春天，郊区很漂亮，有 红色 的花和绿色

de cǎo,　hái yǒu hěn duō lǜ sè de shùmù.　Xiàtiān,　jiāoqū hěn rè, chángcháng xià dà yǔ.　Qiūtiān
的草，还有 很 多绿色的树木。夏天，郊区很热，常常　下大雨。秋天

chángcháng yǒu xiǎo yǔ,　kōngqì hǎo jí le,　bù lěng yě bú rè,　hěn shūfu. Dōngtiān de shíhou, jiāoqū
常常　有 小雨，空气好极了，不冷也不热，很舒服。冬天 的时候，郊区

huì xià xuě,　tiānqì　yě hěn lěng. Qiūtiān shì Xiǎomíng zuì xǐhuan de　jìjié,　wǒ yě xǐhuan qiūtiān.
会 下雪，天气也很冷。秋天 是 小明　最 喜欢 的季节，我也喜欢 秋天。

Lìrú：Wèn：Xiǎomíng jiā zài　nǎr?
例如：问：小明　家 在 哪儿？

　　Dá
　　答：在上海的郊区　　。

Shuí zài shì zhōngxīn gōngzuò?
1. 谁 在 市中心　工作？

_____。

Xiǎomíng de bàba jǐ diǎn qǐchuáng?
2. 小明　的爸爸几点起床？

_____。

Jiāoqū shénme shíhou huì　xià xuě?
3. 郊区 什么 时候 会 下雪？

_____。

Qiūtiān tiānqì zěnme yàng?
4. 秋天 天气 怎么样？

_____。

Shànghǎi yǒu jǐ gè jìjié?
5. 上海 有 几个季节？

A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 94 (30.4%) candidates scored from 6.5 to 10.0 marks, which is a good performance, 111 (35.9%) candidates scored from 3 to 6 marks which represents an average performance and 104 (33.7%) candidates scored 0 to 2.5 marks, which is a weak performance. The general performance of the candidates

in this question was good, since 205 (66.3%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 2 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 2.
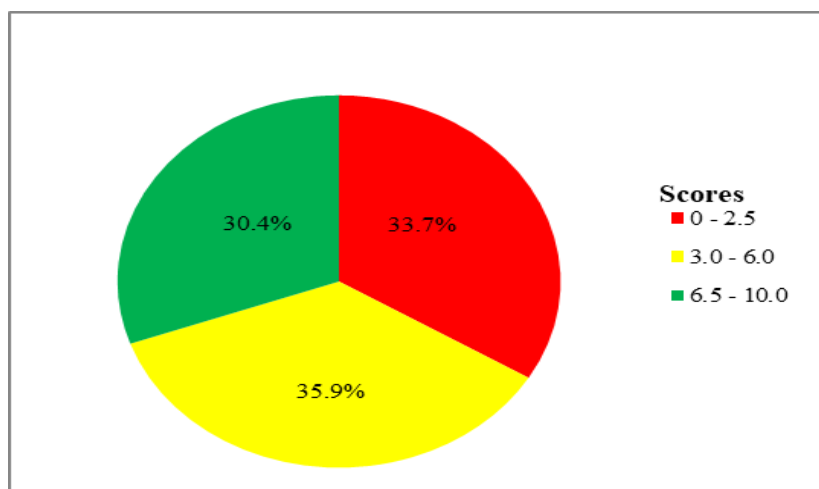
Figure 2: *The Percentages of the candidates' Performance in Question 2*

The data analysis shows that 94 (30.4%) candidates who had good performance scored from 8 to 10 marks. These candidates understood the passage. They managed to identify the information needed to respond to the question. Hence, they wrote correct Chinese character. For example, in item 1, the candidates who scored full mark understood the interrogative word 谁（who）which refers to a person. They identified a person who works at city centre. Thus the correct answer was 小明的爸爸 (Xiaoming's Father).

In item 2, the candidates who scored full mark mastered well the way of telling and asking time in Chinese. They identified the keyword 几点 (what time) an interrogative of time. These candidates identified the correct answer 早上六点 because they understood the passage and knew the uses of an interrogative word 几点 (what time).

In item 3, the question required the candidates to tell time whereby the keyword in this item was 什么时候 (when). The

candidates had to find a period when the snow would fall. They responded well because they understood the meaning of the sentence as well as the requirement of the questions, as they wrote the correct answer 冬天 (winter).

In item 4, the candidates were asked to tell the condition of weather during the autumn season. The candidates who scored full mark in this item identified the interrogative pronoun 怎么样 (how about). They also understood the meaning of the sentence as they managed to write the correct answer 不冷也不热，很舒服 (it is neither cold nor hot, it is cool and comfortable).

In item 5, the candidates were required to state the season of Shanghai. These candidates noticed the interrogative particle 几 that is used to ask about numbers. They were required to identify all seasons in Shanghai. The seasons were named in the passage, the candidates had to identify and count them. These candidates managed to write the correct answer 四个 (four). Extract 2.1 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 2.

二	2.	xiǎo míng de bàba měi tiān zǎo shang liù diǎn
	2、	小 明 的 爸爸 每 天 早 上 六 点.
		qǐ chuáng.
		起 床。
	3.	Dōng tiān de shíhou, jiāo qū huì xià xuě.
	3.	冬 天 的 时 候，郊 区 会 下 雪。
	4.	Qiū tiān tiānqì hěn shūfu, bù lěng yě bù rè.
	4.	秋 天 天气 很 舒 服，不 冷 也 不 热，
	5.	shàng hǎi yǒu sī gè jì jié, chūn tiān, xià tiān,
	5.	上 海 有 四 个 季节，春 天，夏 天，
		Qiū tiān hé dōng tiān.
		秋 天 和 冬 天。

Extract 2.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 2.

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Extract 2.1, reveals that the candidate answered the questions correctly by using appropriate Chinese characters.

Moreover, the data analysis indicates that 111 (35.9%) candidates performed averagely as they scored from 3 to 6 marks. These candidates scored full marks in some items and failed in others. They had partial knowledge pertaining to comprehending the passage. Most of the candidates failed in items 4 and 5. For example, in item 4, they were asked 秋天天气怎么样 (How is the weather condition in autumn?). These candidates scored 0 because they did not understand the interrogative pronoun 怎么样 (how about) as few ot the candidates wrote 天气 (weather) and 秋天 (autumn) which were both incorrect answers.

In item 5, the candidates were asked 上海有几个季节 (How many seasons are there in Shanghai). The candidates scored 0 in this item because the number was not written in the passage but the seasons were named. They wrote the name of places while others left the question unanswered. Extract 2.2 is sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 2.

Extract 2.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance.

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Extract 2.2, shows that the candidate wrote correct answers in items 1, 2 and 3 but failed in items 4 and 5.

Further data analysis indicates that 104 (33.7%) candidates had weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. These candidates did not understand the passage. For instance, some candidates failed to write Chinese characters while few of them copied words from the question paper and treated them as answers. In item 1 for example, the candidates who scored 0 did not realize that the required interrogative pronoun 谁 (who) for naming a person was Xiaoming's father. They also failed to relate the interrogative word with the information given in the passage.

In item 2, the candidates were required to tell the time at which Xiaoming's father wakes up. They did not know how to tell time in Chinese. They failed to identify the keyword 几点 (at what time) which is commonly used in asking time. Some candidates wrote 每天 (everyday) which was wrong.

In item 3, the candidates were required to tell it when would be snowing in suburb areas. Some candidates wrote 天气 (weather) and others wrote 冬天 (winter). These candidates did not comprehend the passage. Additionally, in item 4, the candidates were asked to tell what was the weather like during the autumn season. As per the data analysis, the candidates failed to identify the interrogative pronoun 怎么样（how about）that made them to write such incorrect answers as 秋天天气很冷 (It＇s very cold in autumn).

In item 5, the candidates who scored 0 did not know the meaning of 季节 (season) and the keyword 几 (how many) contained in the question. They also did not know that they were required to write names of the seasons and not numbers in the passage as one of them wrote 一个季节 (one season) instead of the correct answer which was 四个季节 (four seasons).

Extract 2.3 is a sample of responses from a candidate who performed weakly in question 2.

二			
i)	很 远		
ii)	开车去市中心工作		
iii)	春天		
iv)	常常有小雨		

Extract 2.3: A sample of incorrect responses from a candidate with weak performance to question 1.

Extract 2.3, illustrates the incorrect responses from the candidate who performed weakly in this question.

2.2 SECTION B: PATTERNS AND VOCABULARY

In this section, the candidates were given 3 questions: questions 3, 4 and 5 all of which were to be answered. Questions 3 and 4 carried 5 marks and question 5 carried 10 marks, each making a total of 20 marks.

2.2.1 Question 3: Filling in the Brackets with Chinese Pinyin from the Provided Characters

In this question, the candidates were given 5 items comprising 2 characters each were one character of each word had a missing pinyin. Thus, the candidates were required to write the missing pinyin. The question was set from the topic of Housing and Shopping. This question examined the candidate's ability to write the pinyin with their respective tones, initial and finals. The question was as follows:

三. 给汉字标注拼音

例如： Lìrú nǐ ( )
你 好

( ) tiáo
1. 空 调

( ) zi
2. 妻 子

( ) wù
3. 礼 物

guó ( )
4. 国 画

sūn ( )
5. 孙 女

A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 89 (28.8%) candidates scored from 4 to 5 marks, which is a good performance, 129 (41.7%) candidates scored from 2 to 3 marks, which is an average performance and 91 (29.4%) candidates scored 0 to 1 marks, which is a weak performance. The general performance of candidates in this question was average, since 70.6 (218%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 3 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 3.
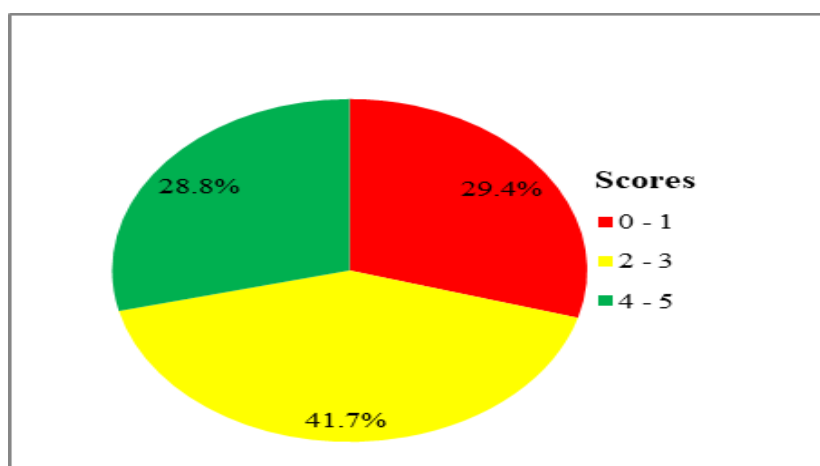

Figure 3: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 3*

The analysis of the candidates' responses shows that 89 (28.8%) candidates performed well in this question as they scored from 4 to 5 marks. These candidates recognized the characters and wrote pinyin correctly. They also marked the tone appropriately. This implies that the candidates had sufficient knowledge of Chinese pronunciation and Chinese characters. They also mastered well the Chinese finials and initials. Extract 3.1 is a sample of responses from a candidate with good performance in question 3.

三	1. kōng	
	2. Qī	
	3. Lǐ	
	4. huà	
	5. nǚ	

Extract 3.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 3.

Extract 3.1 shows responses from a candidate who wrote correct pinyin in all items.

Furthermore，the data analysis reveals that 129 (41.7%) candidates had an average performance as they scored from 2 to 3 marks. Most of the candidates in this category wrote correctly the pinyin in some items and failed in others. Other candidates wrote correct initials and finals but failed to mark the tone correctly. For example, in item 2, most of the candidates failed to write pinyin for the character 妻 as they wrote *chī* instead of *qī*. This implies that the candidates confused the pronunciation of the two words.

In item 5, the candidates failed to write pinyin of the character 女 correctly because they did not master it. Some candidates wrote *ǚ* without marking a tone. Other candidates wrote *u* without marking double dots and a tone. Extract 3.2 is a sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance.

3	1.	Kōng		
	2.	qūn		
	3.	Lì		
	4.	huà		
	5.	nŭ		

Extract 3.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 3.

In Extract 3.2, the candidate wrote correct pinyin in items 1, 4 and 5 but failed in items 2 and 3.

Further data analysis shows that 91 (29.4%) candidates had weak performance as they scored from 0 to 1 mark. These candidates were unable to write pinyin correctly, hence failed the question. This implies that, they did not master well the Chinese pinyin. Also the candidates failed to recognize the Chinese characters which resulted into writing incorrect pinyin. Others confused the characters having the same pronunciation. For example, in item 1, the candidates were provided with the word 空调 (Air condition) in which they were required to write the pinyin of the first character. Most of the candidates who scored zero failed to recognise the word 空调 (Air condition) and others were confused about the radical 工, thus they wrote pinyin *gong*. Some of them wrote the pinyin *miàn* as they saw a part of a word *tiáo* thinking that the word was *miàntiáo* (noodles).

In item 2, the candidates were required to write the pinyin of the first character of the word 妻子 (wife) which is qī. Most of the candidates wrote *nǚ* because they were confused about the character 妻 which has a radical 女 (*nǚ*). They wrote nü without tone while others guessed and wrote such unrelated pinyin *qún*, *qūn* and *shǎng*.

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In item 3, the candidates who scored zero did not recognise the word 礼物 (gift). Few of them confused the radical 礻 with the character 不, thus they wrote *bù*. Similarly, In item 4, the candidates were provided with a word 国画 (Chinese painting) and they were required to write the pinyin of the second character 画. The candidates who scored 0 did not recognise the character. Some candidates wrote correct initial and finals but failed to mark the correct tone.

In item 5, the candidates were provided with a word 孙女 (granddaughter) and they were required to write the correct pinyin of the second character which was nǚ. The candidates who scored zero did not recognise the character, as few of them put dots on top of *ü* without marking a tone. Extract 3.3 is a sample of responses from the candidate who performed weakly in question 3.

三	ⅱ) Chüo	
	ⅰ) Chī	'
	3 Shī	
	4 gōng	
	5 Ji	

Extract 3.3: A sample of incorrect responses to question 3.

In Extract 3.3, the candidate wrote incorrect pinyin in all the characters given.

2.2.2 Question 4: Filling in the Brackets with Chinese Character from the Provided Pinyin

In this question, the candidates were given (5) items which had words comprising two characters, but one of them was omitted. The candidates were required to write the missing character.

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The question was set from the topic of Travel and Custom. This question tested the candidates' ability to write Chinese characters. The question was:

四． 根据拼音写汉字。

Lìrú: nǐ hǎo
例如： （ 你 ） 好

xiàn zài
1． （　　） 在

jīn tiān
2． （　　） 天

Duān wǔ
3． 端 （　　）

chūn tiān
4． （　　） 天

Zhōng qiū
5． 中 （　　）

The total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 29 (9.4%) candidates scored from 4 to 5 marks, which is a good performance, 203 (65.7%) candidates scored from 2 to 3 marks which is an average performance and 77 (24.9%) candidates scored from 0 to 1 mark, which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was average, since 232 (75.1%) candidates scored from 4 to 5 marks. Figure 4 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 4.
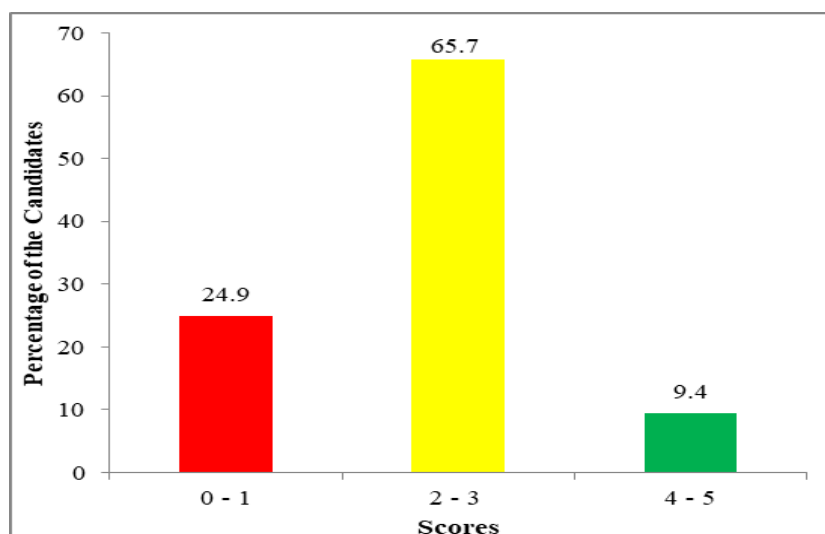
Figure 4: *The Percentages of Candidates' Performance in Question 4*

The data analysis shows that 29 (9.4%) candidates had good performance as they scored from 4 to 5 marks. These candidates had sufficient knowledge pertaining to writing Chinese characters. They knew how to write Chinese strokes and characters by adhering to the rules. They also mastered well Chinese pinyin and their characters which helped them to write correct answers and scored full marks. For example, in item 1, the candidates were required to write the character 现. Most of the candidates were able to write this character because they had adequate knowledge about writing Chinese characters.

In item 2, the candidates were required to write the character 今. They wrote this character correctly because they understood the meaning of the word given which was 今天 (today). Hence they got the item right. Likewise, in item 3, the candidates were required to write the second part of the character 端午 (dragon boat). These candidates wrote these characters correctly because they had adequate knowledge of writing Chinese characters by comprising with the rules. They were also able to identify the character of the given pinyin.

In items 4, the candidates were required to write the character 春 which aimed at completing the word 春天 (spring). These candidates wrote the character correctly because they had adequate knowledge about recognition of characters.

In item 5， the candidates wrote correctly the character 秋 because they had sufficient knowledge of writing Chinese characters. They also had good knowledge of memorizing Chinese character which enabled them to identify the meaning of the word 中秋 (mid-autumn). Extract 4.1 is a sample of responses from a candidate who performed well in question 4.

Extract 4.1: A sample of the candidates' correct response to question 4.

In Extract 4.1, the candidate wrote correct characters in all items.

Further analysis shows that 203 (65.7%) candidates had an average performance as they scored from 2 to 3 marks. These candidates scored full marks in few items and failed in others. For example, in item 3, the candidates were required to write 午 *wǔ* which completes the word 端午 referring to Chinese traditional festival. Some candidates wrote 五 *wǔ* (five) because they confused the pronunciation of these two characters. This implies that the candidates identified the pronunciation (pinyin)

but confused the character. Extract 4.2 is a sample of responses from a candidate who performed averagely in question 4.

四。	1. 见。		
	2. 今。		
	3. 五。		
	4. 春。		
	5. 秋。		

Extract 4.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 4.

In Extract 4.2, the candidate wrote correct answers in items 2, 4 and 5 but failed in item 1 and 3.

Moreover, the data analysis reveals that 77 (24.9%) candidates had a weak performance as they scored from 0 to 1 mark. These candidates did not master well the Chinese characters and their pinyin which made them to write incorrect characters. Some candidates left the question unanswered while others copied some characters from the question paper. For example, in item 1, the candidates were required to write the character 现 but they failed due to their insufficient knowledge of Chinese character. Some of them wrote unrelated character like 两 and 想 where as some candidates forgot to write the left part of the character which is the radical 王 wrote 见.

In item 2, most of the candidates failed to write strokes correctly as some of them wrote 今 and 今 instead of 今. In item 3, the candidates were required to write the character 午 which is pronounced as *wǔ* given that Chinese language has many characters which having the pronunciation similar to the pinyin *wǔ*. Thus, some candidates got confused and wrote that of 五

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wǔ (five) instead of 午. Others wrote 各 which was also a wrong answer.

In item 4, the candidates were required to write 春 but some of them wrote unknown characters like 𡆪 and 舂. This implies that the candidates had insufficient knowledge about writing the Chinese characters.

In item 5， the candidates were required to write 秋. Some of them wrote 田水，小 and 球, which implies that they did not have enough skills on writing the Chinese characters. Extract 4.3 is a sample of responses from a candidate who performed weakly in question 4.

Extract 4.3: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 4.

In Extract 4.3, the candidate wrote incorrect characters in all items.

2.2.3 Question 5: Choosing the Correct Character from the Given Two Similar Characters

The candidates were given five sentences with two characters and they were required to choose one suitable character between them in order to complete the meaning of the sentence. These characters had some slight similarities in either phonology or morphology. The question was set from the topic of Colour and Size. It aimed at testing the candidates' ability to differentiate the uses of two characters which are slightly similar. The question was as follows:

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五. 选字填空。

Lì rú: Wǒ jiā yǒu kǒu rén.
例如：我家有 ___九___ 口人。（九/力）

Mǎ Lìlì de yīfu shì sè de
1. 马丽丽的衣服是 _____色的。（红/工 ）

Wǒ de jiějie yǒu yì tiáo qún zi
2. 我的姐姐有一条 _____裙子。（白/的）

Huāyuán lǐ yǒu zhǒng yánsè de huā
3. 花园里有 _____ 种颜色的花。（入/八）

Wǒ gēge de zhè shuāng xié tài le
4. 我哥哥的这双 鞋 太 _____了。（太/大）

Shān shàng yǒu hěn duō huángsè de huā
5. 山上 有 很多 黄色 的_____花。（少/小）

A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, of whom 116 (37.5%) candidates scored from 7 to 10 marks, which is a good performance, 176 (57.0%) candidates scored from 3 to 6 marks which is an average performance and 17.0 (5.5%) candidates scored from 0 to 2 marks, which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was good, since 292 (94.5%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 5 summarizes the candidate's performance in question 5.
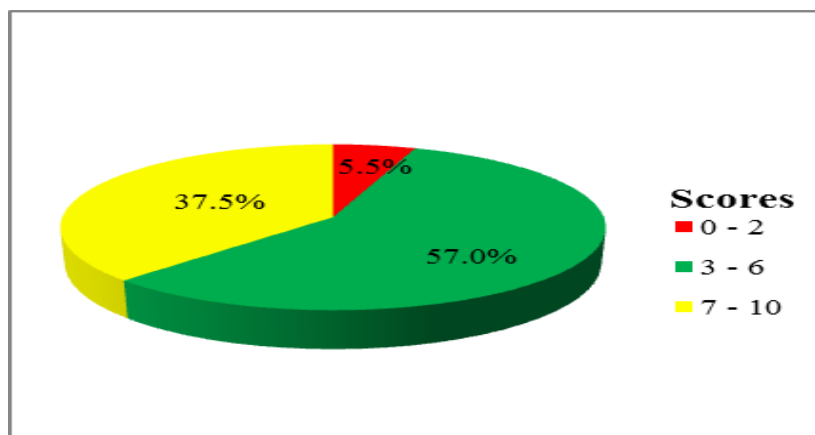

Figure 5: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 5*

The data analysis shows that, 116 (37.5%) candidates had good performance as their scores ranged from 7 to 10 marks. These candidates mastered well the Chinese characters as they

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managed to write correct answers there by being able to differentiate between the pronunciations of the given characters. For example, in item 1, the candidates understood the meaning of 红 (red) and 工 (work/job). They also knew the meaning of the sentence that was talking about colour and not job or work. Therefore, they chose the correct answer 红 (red).

In item 2, the candidates knew the meaning and different uses of the character 白 (white) and 的 (possessive particle). They realized that the sentence was about colour of the clothes worn by elder sister. Therefore, they identified the correct answer 白 (white).

In item 3，the candidates were required to identify colours of flowers in the garden. They were able to differentiate the form and meaning of the characters 入 (enter) and 八 (eight). They also identified the measure word 种 (kind) which is always used after a number. Thus they wrote the correct answer 八 (eight).

In item 4, the candidates were able to identify the structure of 太……了 in which an adjective should be placed between 太 and 了. They also identified 大 (big) as an adjective and 太（very）as an adverb. Therefore, they managed to write the correct answer 大（big）.

In item 5, the candidates knew the meaning of the characters 少（few）and 小 （small）as well as their usage. They knew that 小 （small）is used in size and 少 （few）in quantity. Extract 5.1 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 5.

五。	1. 红。		
	2. 白。		
	3. 人。		
	4. 太。		
	5. 小。		

Extract 5.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 5.

In Extract 5.1, the candidate managed to write correct answers in all items.

Furthermore, the data analysis shows that 176 (57.0%) candidates had an average performance as they scored from 3 to 6 marks. These candidates scored full marks in some items and failed in others. The analysis shows that, they had partial knowledge about differentiating the meaning of some given words. For example, candidates failed to identify the difference between 太 (very) and 大 (big) ; 八 (eight) and 入 (enter) ; 小 (small) and 少 (few). Thus they failed to recognise the suitable character. Extract 5.2 is a sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 5.

五 1	红		
2	的		
3	入		
4	太		
5	少少		

Extract 5.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 5.

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In Extract 5.2, the candidate was able to write correct answers in items 1, 3 and 4 but failed in items 2 and 5.

Additionally, the data analysis indicates that 17.0 (5.5%) candidates had a weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. These candidates had insufficient knowledge of writing Chinese characters. They failed to abide by the rules of writing Chinese characters as well as differentiating their morphology. Some candidates failed to distinguish characters with slight similar pronunciation and forms. For example, in item 1, the candidates were required to identify the colour of Ma Lili's clothes. But most of those who scored 0 failed to identify the character of colour in the given alternatives. They failed to identify the correlation of the character 色 (colour) which matched with a character 红 (Red) to make a complete character 红色 (Red colour).

In item 2, the candidates who scored 0 did not know that after the measure word 条 (used for trouser) should be followed by an adjective 白 (white). The candidates failed to realise that a word 白 (white) was an adjective.

In tem 3, the candidates were required to identify the number of colours. The candidates who scored 0 failed to identify the measure word 种 (type) which is always followed by a number. Also some candidates failed to distinguish between the character 八 (eight) and 入 (Enter) because of their slight morphological similarities.

In item 4, the candidates who scored zero did not know the uses of an adverb of degree 太 (very) which is followed by an adjective. In this item the only adjective was 大 (big). Similarly, in item 5, the candidates who scored 0 did not know that the word which accompanied the possessive particle 的 is a noun phrase and that the only word forming a noun phrase was 小

(adjective of size) and not adjective of amount 少 (few). Extract 5.3 is a sample of responses from a candidate with weak performance in question 5.

五	1		
2	的		
3	人		
4	太		
5	少		

Extract 5.3: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 5.

In Extract 5.3, the candidate wrote incorrect characters in all items.

2.3   SECTION C: GRAMMAR PATTERNS

This section had 3 questions: questions 6, 7 and 8 all of which were to be attempted by the candidates. Questions 6 and 7 carried 5 marks each and question 8 carried 10 marks making a total of 20 marks in this section.

2.3.1   Question 6: Multiple Choice items

The question had 5 multiple choice items in which the candidates were required to choose the correct answers among the given alternatives. The question was set from the topic of Food and Hobby. It examined the candidates' ability to use different grammatical expressions to introduce someone or express oneself. The question was as follows:

六. 选择题。

Lì rú: Nǐ　　　　shénme míngzi ?
例如：你（　B　）什么名字？

　　　shì　　　　jiào　　　　　qù　　　　　　huì
　　A　是　　B　叫　　　　C　去　　　　D　会

Wǒ hé bàba yíyàng xǐhuan dǎ
1. 我 和爸爸一样 喜欢 打（　　）。

　　yǔmáoqiú　　　shū　　　　huà　　　　yīnyuè
　A　羽毛球　　B　书　　　C　画　　　D　音乐

Xiǎohóng de māma fēicháng xǐhuan chī
2. 小红 的 妈妈 非常 喜欢 吃（　　）。

　　qìshuǐ　　　　miàntiáo　　　guǒzhī　　　niúnǎi
　　A　汽水　　B　面条　　C　果汁　　D　牛奶

Zhè ge cāntīng de kāfēi hěn hǎo
3. 这个 餐厅 的 咖啡很好（　　）。

　　　dǎ　　　　chī　　　　　xiě　　　　hē
　　A　打　　B　吃　　　C　写　　　D　喝

Yéye zhè zhōu　　　dōu qù gōngyuán dǎ tàijíquán.
4. 爷爷这 周（　　）都去 公园 打太极拳。

　　Xīngqīwǔ　　　Xīngqīliù　　　Xīngqītiān　　　tiāntiān
　　A　星期五　　B　星期六　　C　星期天　　D　天天

Wǒ　　　huà guóhuà.
5. 我（　　）画 国画。

　　huì　　　　yǒu　　　　shì　　　　jiào
　　A　会　　B　有　　　C　是　　　D　叫

A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 163 (52.8%) candidates scored from 4 to 5 marks, which is a good performance, 93 (29.8%) candidates scored from 2 to 3 marks which is an average performance and 54 (17.5%) candidates scored 0 to 1 mark which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was good, since 256 (82.5%) candidates scored from 3 to 5 marks. Figure 6 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 6.
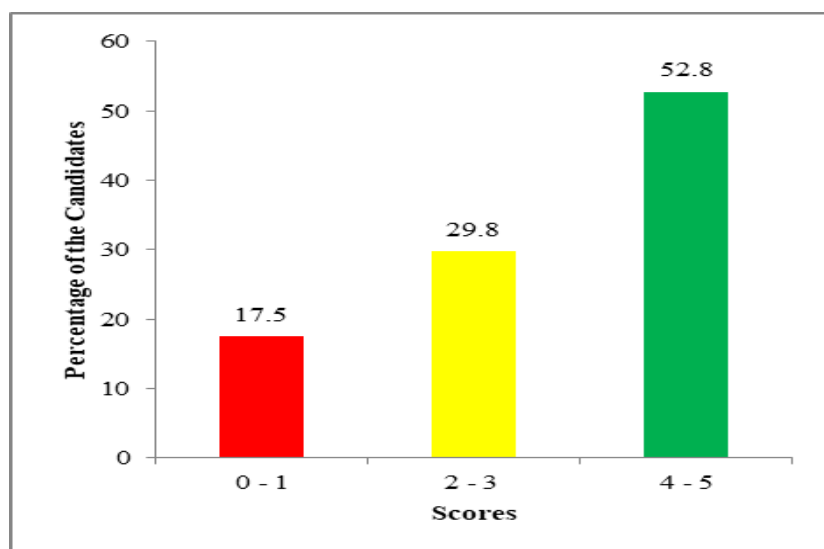
Figure 6: *The Percentages of Candidates' Performance in Question 6*

The data analysis reveals that 163 (52.8%) candidates had good performance as they scored from 4 to 5 marks. These candidates had sufficient knowledge of Chinese language sentence structure and grammar. They managed to choose the correct answers in all items because they understood the meaning of the words and sentences given. For example, in item 1, the candidates knew the meaning of a verb 打 (play) which can be followed by the word 羽毛球 (badminton). They noted that other alternatives given were not nouns and were not related with the verb 打 (play).

In item 2, the candidates understood the meaning of the verbs 吃 (eat) and 喝 (drink). They knew that alternative B 面条 (noodle) relates with verb 吃 (eat) and that the rest of the alternatives related with the verb 喝 (drink). Hence they chose the alternative 面条 (noodle).

In item 3, the candidates knew about the uses of the adjective 好 (good) in expressing how the action is done. They also knew that a word 咖啡 (coffee) in the sentence was used with the

verb 喝 (drink). They were aware that only the verb 喝 (drink) can be used with a noun 咖啡 (coffee). Hence they managed to choose the correct answer.

In item 4, the candidates were aware that the word (week) in the sentence had the same meaning as the word 星期 (week) among the alternatives, so these words could not be used together. Hence they opted for D 天天（every day）which was the correct answer.

In item 5, the candidates realized that a word 画 (drawing) was used as a main verb which could be accompanied by an auxiliary verb. They chose A 会（can）because they knew that it was the only auxiliary verb among other alternatives given. Extract 6.1 is a sample of the candidate's correct response to question 6.

六	1. A
	2. B
	3. D
	4. D
	5 A

Extract 6.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 6.

In Extract 6.1, the candidate filled in all the blanks by choosing the correct answers.

Moreover, the data analysis shows that, 93 (29.8%) candidates performed averagely as they scored from 2 to 3 marks. These candidates had insufficient knowledge of Chinese sentence structure as well as vocabulary and their meaning. These candidates managed to answer correctly in some items but failed in others. For example, in item 2, the candidates were required to identify a verb 吃 (eat) in the question. Then they

were also required to find the alternative which could match with the verb 吃 (eat) which was 面条 (noodle). Some candidates opted C 果汁 (juice) which was wrong because you can not 吃 (eat) 果汁 (juice). 果汁 (juice) can be used with the verb 喝 (drink).

In item 3, the candidates were required to describe the taste of the coffee. Some of the candidates opted for B 吃 (eat) which was wrong because, they were not aware that 咖啡 (coffee) cannot be used with 好吃 (delicious) as it is used only for food but not for drinks.

In item 5, some candidates failed because they did not understand the other meaning of the word 画（to draw）when used as a verb. Those who opted B 有 (have), they used 画 (painting) as a noun. They misunderstood the meaning of the word 画, thus they ended up choosing an incorrect answer. Extract 6.2 is a sample of responses from the candidate with an average performance in question 6.

六	1) C		
	2) D		
	3) C		
	4) D		
	5) A		

Extract 6.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with average performance in question 6.

In Extract 6.2, the candidate wrote correct answers in items 4 and 5, but incorrect answers in items 1, 2 and 3.

Finally, the data analysis reveals that, 54 (17.5%) candidates had weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. The candidates who scored 0 had inadequate knowledge of Chinese sentence structure as well as vocabulary that hindered them to differentiate the meaning of the given distracters. Some candidates chose words randomly. For example, in item 1, the

candidates did not understand the meaning of the verb 打 (play) which needed to be used with a word 羽毛球 (badminton). They were not aware that other alternatives given were nouns which could not be used together with a verb 打 (play).

In item 2, the candidates confused the meaning of the verbs 吃 (eat) and 喝 (drink). They did not know that alternative B 面条 (noodle) related with the verb 吃 (eat) and that the rest of alternatives related with a verb 喝 (drink). Hence they chose incorrect answer.

In item 3, the candidates with 0 mark were not familiar with the uses of the word 好 (good) in expressing the way an action is done. They were also not aware that 咖啡 (coffee) in the sentence can be used together with a verb 喝 (drink). They were not aware that 好喝 (delicious/sweet) can be used to describe a noun 咖啡 (coffee).

In item 4, the candidates who scored 0 had insufficient knowledge of Chinese vocabulary which are synonymous. The word 周 (week) in the sentence had the same meaning as the word 星期 (week) among the alternatives. These words cannot be used together.

In item 5， the candidates were not aware of the word 画 which may mean have two meaning (drawing) or (painting). They failed to notice that the word 画 (drawing) was used as a main verb and could be accompanied by an auxiliary verb. They chose incorrect option because they did not know that 会 (can) was the only auxiliary verb among the alternatives given. Extract 6.3 is a sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 6.

六	1′ D		
	2.		
	2. D		
	3. A		
	4. A		
	5. D		

Extract 6.3: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 6.

In Extract 6.3, the candidate chose incorrect answers in all items.

2.3.2 Question 7: Choosing the Correct Vocabulary from the Given Two Similar Patterns

In this question, the candidates were given two vocabulary items from which they were required to choose one word to complete the given sentences. The question was set from the topic of Jobs which aimed to examine the candidates' ability to talk about jobs. The question was as follow:

七． 选择合适的词完成句子。用汉字填写。

Lìrú: Wǒ   lǎoshī.
例如：我 ___是___ 老师。（是/叫）

Nǐ shì   shì gōngchéngshī?
1. 你是 _____ 是 工程师？（不/没）

Wǒ méiyǒu kàn dào Xiǎohǎi, nǐ zhīdào tā qù   ér le ma?
2. 我 没有 看到 小海，你知道他去_____儿了吗？（那/哪）

Nín gēge shì kēxuéjiā
3. 您哥哥是科学家_____？（吧/呢）

Māma shì hùshi,   tā   yīyuàn gōngzuò.
4. 妈妈是护士，她_____医院工作。（在/里）

Xīngqī tiān wǒmen dōu   lǐtáng kàn biǎoyǎn.
5. 星期天我们 都_____礼堂看表演。（去/往）

The question was attempted by 309 (100%) candidates, among them 251 (81.2%) candidates scored from 3 to 5 marks, which is a good performance, 37 (12.0%) candidates scored from 1.5 to 2.5 marks which is an average performance and 21 (6.8%) candidates scored 0 to 1 mark which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was good, since 288 (93.2%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 7 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 7.
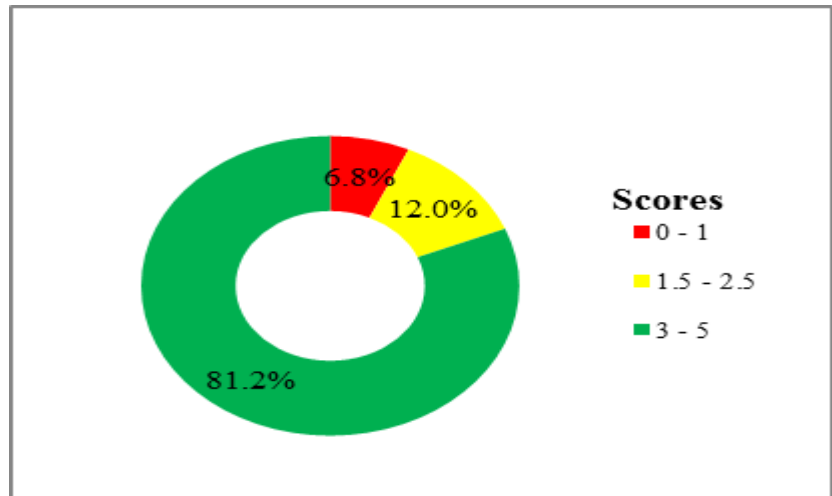

Figure 7: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 7*

The data analysis indicates that 251 (81.2%) candidates performed well in this question as they scored from 3 to 5 marks. These candidates understood the requirement of the question. They also had adequate knowledge of Chinese vocabulary and their uses. Hence they chose the correct answer. For example, in item 1, the candidates mastered well the grammatical structure of 是不是 (yes or not) which is used to ask questions when the speaker wants to confirm what he/she already believes.

In item 2, the candidates had sufficient knowledge of the Chinese vocabulary as they managed to use interrogative pronoun 哪儿 (where). They also knew that at the end of the sentence there was an interrogative pronoun 吗 (interrogative

particle) which can be used with a word 哪儿 (where) to form a question.

In item 3, the candidates knew about the uses of 吧 (interrogative particle) which is used for suggestion, request or command as well as the use of the 呢 (interrogative particle). They also knew that the sentence given required 吧 which is always used to confirm information. Therefore, they could not use 呢 because 呢 is used to respond to a question that the speaker has just asked.

In item 4, the candidates had sufficient knowledge of Chinese language preposition. They were aware that a preposition 在 (at) is used before a noun of place to show the existence of something. They also knew that 里 (inside) was not the correct answer because it is used as preposition to tell that something is inside something else.

In item 5, the candidates were aware that 往 (toward) is a preposition that used to show direction while 去 (go) is the verb which denotes movement. Thus they did not choose 去 (go) because they knew that it is used before a noun to show the process of moving towards a place. Extract 7.1 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 7.

七。	1. 不。	
	2. 哪。	
	3. 吧。	
	4. 在。	
	5. 去。	

Extract 7.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 7.

In Extract 7.1, the candidate wrote correct answers in all items.

The data analysis reveals that 37 (12.0%) candidates performed averagely as they scored from 2 to 3 marks. These candidates had insufficient knowledge of the Chinese grammar and vocabulary. They failed to identify the meaning of the given distracters. Some candidates answered correctly in some items while failed in others. They were familiar with few vocabulary items. For example, in item 1, the candidates who wrote 没 (not) got it wrong because they did not master the grammatical structure of 是不是 (yes or no) as they opted for the non-existing structure of 是没是.

In item 3, some candidates scored 0 in this item because they failed to distinguish between two interrogative particles 吧 (used for suggestion, request or command) and 呢 (used to respond to a question that the speaker has just asked). They chose 呢 which could not be used in an affirmative sentence. The correct answer was 吧 which is used for confirmation.

In item 5, the candidates who scored 0 had insufficient knowledge about the uses of the verb 去 (go) and the preposition 往 (towards). The sentence required a verb 去 (go) to express a complete idea given that there was a name of place after a blank in which 往 (towards) could not be used since it is used to show direction and not an action of movement. Thus, the correct answer was the verb 去 (go) as it completes meaning of the given sentence. Extract 7.2 is a sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 7.

七	1) 不.		
	2) 那.		
	3) 呢.		
	4) 在.		
	5) 去.		

In Extract 7.2, the candidate managed to write correct answers in items 1, 4 and 5 but failed in items 2 and 3.

Furthermore, the data analysis indicates that, 21 (6.8%) candidates performed weak as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. These candidates did not master well the given vocabulary and this hindered them from understanding the meaning of the sentences given, thus resulted them to write wrong responses. Most of the candidates picked words randomly. For example, in item 1, the candidates did not master well the grammatical structure of 是不是 (yes or not). This is evidenced by their failure to use the aforementioned structure correctly.

In item 2, the candidates who scored 0 failed to use an interrogative noun 哪儿 (where). They also did not notice that, there was an interrogative pronoun 吗 which goes with 哪儿 (where) at the end of the sentence. Therefore, it implies that 那儿 (there) cannot be used for asking questions, it is a demonstrative pronoun.

In item 3, some candidates scored 0 because they failed to distinguish between two interrogative particles 吧 (used for suggestion, request or command) and 呢 (used to respond to a question that the speaker has just asked). They chose 呢 which could not be used in an affirmative sentence while others left the blank unfilled. The correct answer was an interrogative particle 吧.

In item 4, the candidates had inadequate knowledge of Chinese language preposition. They did not know that when the preposition 在 (at) is used before a noun of place it shows the existence of something. They also did not know that 里 (inside) was an incorrect answer because when it is used as a preposition expresses something being inside somewhere.

In item 5, the candidates did not know the difference between 去 (go) and 往 (toward). They were also not aware that 往 (toward) shows direction and 去 (go) is verb which denotes the action of movement. Extract 7.3 is a sample of responses from one of the candidates who performed weakly in question 7.

七	1. 没	
	2. 那	
	3. 呢	
	4. 里	
	5. 往	

Extract 7.3: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 7.

Extract 7.3, illustrates the performance of the candidate who wrote incorrect answers in all items.

2.3.3 Question 8: Re-arranging the Jumbled Words into Correct Sentences

In this question, the candidates were given 5 items with jumbled words. They were required to re-arrange them into meaningful sentences. The question was set from the topic of Fashion and Entertainment and tested the candidates' ability to state entertainment activities.

八. 连词成句。

Lì rú:　　shì　　Zhōngguó　Wǒ　　rén
例如：①是　②中国　③我　④人

___③①②④___。

　　cháng cháng　　Yīng wén gē　　tīng　　Lì lì
1.　①常常　　②英 文歌　　③听　　④丽丽

_____。

　　ma　　le　　diàn yǐng yuàn　　kāi mén
2.　①吗　②了　③电 影 院　④开门

_____？

　　xīn wén　　xiǎng　　kàn kan　　bà ba
3.　①新闻　②想　③看看　④爸爸

_____。

　　zú qiú　　tī　　gē ge　　hěn hǎo　　tī de
4.　①足球　②踢　③哥哥　④很好　⑤踢得

_____。

　　xǐ huan　　wǒ　　kàn diàn yǐng　　gēn péng you　　yí yàng
5.　①喜欢　②我　③看 电影　④跟 朋友　⑤一样

_____。

The question was attempted by 309 (100%) candidates, out of whom 120 (38.8%) candidates scored from 8 to 10 marks showing a good performance, 94 (30.4%) candidates scored from 3 to 6 showing an average performance and 95 (30.7%) candidates scored from 0 to 2 marks indicating a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was good, since 214 (69.3%) candidates scored from 30% or above. Figure 8 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 8.
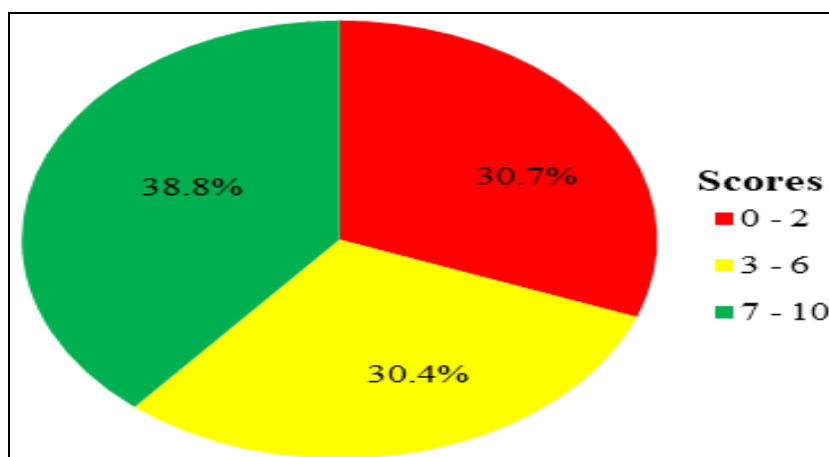

Figure 8: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 8*

The data analysis shows that 120 (38.8%) candidates performed well in this question as they scored from 7 to 10 marks. These candidates managed to re-arrange the jumbled sentences correctly because they had sufficient knowledge of Chinese language structure, grammar and the meaning of the given vocabulary. For example, in item 1, the candidates mastered well the structure S + Adv + V + O. They were aware that the verb 听 (listen) had to be used after an adverb 常常 (often) to show the repetition of an action.

In item 2, the candidates who wrote correct sentences were familiar with the structure S + V+了 + 吗. They wrote the correct answer ③④②① 电影院开门了吗 (Is the movie theatre open?). They knew that when 了 is used after a verb it shows that a change of state or action has been occurred. They also noticed that the noun phrase 电影院 was the first word which could be used as a subject.

In item 3, the candidates re-arranged the sentences by using the structure S+V1+V2+O. They knew that V1 is an auxiliary verb which always goes with the main verb V2. They used it to write the correct answer ④②③④ (My father wants to watch news).

In item 4, the candidates were required to use the structure S+V+N+V+得+Adj to answer the question. Hence, the candidates wrote such a correct answer as ③②①⑤④ 哥哥踢足球踢得很好 (My elder brother plays well football).

In item 5, the candidates mastered well the comparison sentence structure A+跟+B+一样+V1+ V2+N. Therefore, they wrote the correct answer ②④⑤①③ 我跟朋友一样喜欢看电影 (I and my friend like to watch movie). This shows that the candidates had sufficient knowledge of analysing and arranging Chinese sentence structures. Extract 8.1 is a sample of responses from the candidate who performed well in question 8.

Extract 8.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 8.

Extract 8.1 shows the responses from the candidate who managed to re-arrange correctly the jumbled words in all items.

Furthermore, the data analysis reveals that 94 (30.4%) candidates performed averagely as they scored from 3 to 6 marks. These candidates were able to answer correctly in some items but failed in others. They were unfamiliar with the meaning of some jumbled words. This implies that the candidates had partial knowledge of Chinese grammar sentence structure. For example, in item 2, the candidates who scored zero had inadequate knowledge on the Chinese grammar S + V+了 + 吗. They wrote such an incorrect answer as ③④①② 电影院 开门吗了 (the movie theatre open is). They put 了 at the end of the sentences without knowing that 了 is followed by a main verb.

In item 3, some candidates scored zero because they did not master the structure S + V1+V2+O. For instance, some candidates wrote ④②①③ 爸爸想新闻看看 (My father wants news to watch) which was not correct because they did not know the meaning of the noun 新闻 (News) and where to place it to make a correct sentence.

In item 4, the candidates who scored 0 did not know the structure S+ V+N+V+得+Adj. Some candidates wrote ③②① ④⑤ 哥哥踢足球很好踢得 (My elder brother plays football

well). These candidates did not know where to put ⑤ 踢得. This implies that the candidates in this category had insufficient knowledge of the Chinese language structure S+V+N+V+得+Adj. Extract 8.2 is a sample of responses from a candidate who performed averagely in question 8.

Extract 8.2: A sample of responses from the candidate with an average performance to question 8.

In Extract 8.2, the candidate re-arranged words correctly in items 1, 2 and 5 but failed in items 3 and 4.

Furthermore, the data analysis shows that 95 (30.7%) candidates had a weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. These candidates did not understand the meaning of the given words. They also had inadequate knowledge of Chinese grammar and vocabulary. Thus, this resulted to incorrect re-arrangement of sentences. Some candidates left the question unanswered. For example, in item 1, the candidates confused the Chinese grammar with that of Swahili according to which the adverb 常常 (often) come after the verb. Hence they wrote ④③②① 丽丽听英文歌常常 (Lili listens English language music always) and others wrote ④①②③ 丽丽常常英文歌听 (Lili always English language music listens).

In item 2, some of the candidates were not familiar with syntactic structure S + V+了 + 吗. They failed to understand that 了 should be used after the verb 开门 (open the door). Thus, they ended up writing incorrect answers such as ④③②① 开门

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电影院了吗 (open the movie theatre is) and ①④②③ 吗开门了电影院 (Is open the movie theatre).

In item 3, some candidates wrote ④②①③ 爸爸想新闻看看 (My father wants news to watch) because they did not know the meaning of the word 新闻 (news). Some of them picked words randomly and formed ungrammatical sentences like ④③①② 爸爸看看新闻想 (My father to watch news wants).

In item 4, the candidates did not master well the Chinese sentence structure S+V+N+V+得+Adj as well as the meaning of the given words. For example, some candidates wrote ③②④⑤① 哥哥踢很好踢得球 (My elder brother plays well the way plays football) while others wrote ③①④②⑤ 哥哥足球很好踢踢得 (My elder brother football well plays the way plays) both of which were incorrect answers.

In item 5, the candidates were required to use comparison sentence structure A+跟 +B+一样+Adj+其他 to answer the question. However, they failed to re-arrange words into meaningful sentences due to lack of knowledge of Chinese sentences structure. Some candidates wrote ②①④⑤③ 我喜欢跟朋友一样看电院 (I like with friends the same to watch movie). Extract 8.3 is a sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 8.

In Extract 8.3, the candidate re-arranged incorrectly the words in all the items.

2.4 SECTION D: LANGUAGE USE

This section had three questions; namely questions 9, 10 and 11. The candidates were required to answer all the questions. Question 9 and 10 carried 5 marks each and question 11 carried 10 marks making a total of 20 marks.

2.4.1 Question 9: Matching Items

This question consisted of columns A and B where in column A, the candidates were provided with 6 items and one item served as an example. They were required to match the statement in column A with the correct response from column B. This question was set from the topic of Introducing Yourself and Friends. It aimed at examining the candidates' ability to introduce themselves and friends. The question was as follows:

九. 匹配题，第一题答案已给出。

A 栏		B 栏
Nǐ hǎo! 1. 你好！	F	Lái guò. A 来过。
Nǐ péngyou yǒuméiyǒu qùguò Guǎngzhōu? 2. 你 朋友 有没有 去过 广州？		Huì. B 会。
Nǐ yéye yǒuméiyǒu zuò guò fēijī? 3. 你爷爷有没有坐过飞机？		Bù yuǎn. C 不远。
Nǐ tóngxué huìbuhuì qí zìxíngchē? 4. 你同学会不会骑自行车？		Bù duō. D 不多。
Dìtiě pǎo de kuài bú kuài? 5. 地铁跑得 快不快？		Zuò guò. E 坐过。
Gōnggòng qìchē shang rén duōbuduō? 6. 公共 汽车上 人多不多？		Nǐ hǎo! F 你好！
		Méi qùguò. G 没去过。
		Kuài de hěn. H 快得很。

The question was attempted by 309 (100%) candidates, out of whom 282 (91.3%) candidates scored from 4 to 5 marks, which is a good performance, 14 (4.5%) candidates performed averagely by scoring from 2 to 3 marks and 13 (4.2%) candidates scored from 0 to 1 mark which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was good since 299 (95.8%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 9 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 9.
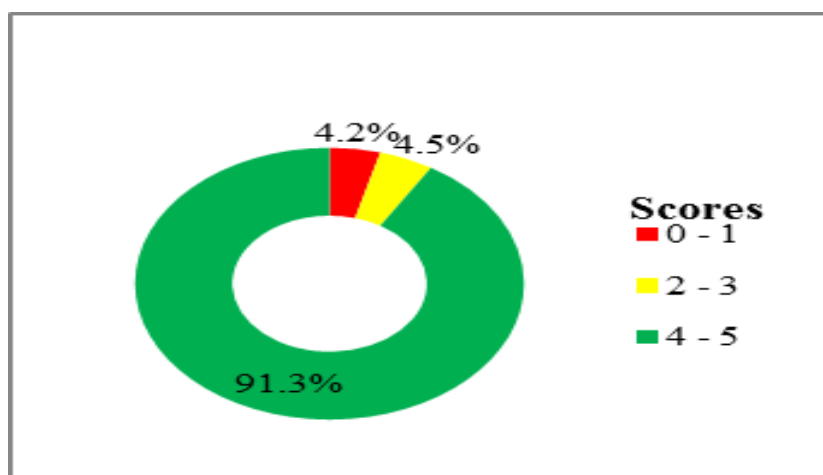
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Figure 9: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 9*

The data analysis shows that 282 (91.3%) candidates had good performance as they scored from 4 to 5 marks. The candidates who wrote correct answers had sufficient knowledge of Chinese language structure. They also knew well as how to answer questions in short form. For example, in items 2 and 3, the candidates mastered well the structure V+过 which shows past experience. In items 2 and 3, the questions were 你朋友有没有去过广州？ (Had your friend ever been in Guangzhou?) and 你爷爷有没有坐过飞机（Had your grandfather ever travelled by Airplane?） respectively. The candidates were aware about answering questions in positive and negative form.

In items 4, 5 and 6, the candidates were given the questions with a structure V+不+V and Adj+不+Adj respectively. The candidates were required to match by identifying the affirmative sentence or negative sentence according to the question. These candidates were aware of the way of answering this question in positive and negative form. They wrote the correct answers 会 (can) and 不多 (not many) in item 4 and 6 respectively. In item 5, the candidates were aware with the structure of V+得+Adj which shows the degree or level of

condition. Extract 9.1 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 9.

九.	A 栏	1	2	3	4	5	6		
	B 栏	F	G	E	B	H	D		

Extract 9.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 9.

In Extract 9.1, the candidate matched all the given statements from column A with correct responses in column B.

Further analysis indicates that 14 (4.5%) candidates had an average performance as they scored from 2 to 3 marks. The candidates had partial knowledge of the Chinese sentence structure V+不+V and Adj+不+Adj. Most of the candidates who scored averagely failed to respond correctly in item 3. They were confused by an alternative A 来过 (came) because they failed to differentiate between 来过 and 坐过 (sat), where 坐过 was the correct answer. Therefore, most of them choose 来过 which was wrong.

In item 2, most of the candidates chose A 来过 (came) instead of G 没去过 (did not go) because they associated the word 过 with in 去过 (went) and 过 with the word 来过, respectively. This reveals that they did not know the meaning and uses of the two words. Extract 9.2 is a sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance.

九.	F
2	G
3	C
4	B
5	E
6	D

In Extract 9.2, the candidate was able to write correct answers in items 2, 4 and 6 but failed in items 3 and 5.

Moreover, the candidates' response analysis shows that 13 (4.2%) candidates had a weak performance in this question as they scored from 0 to 1 mark. They had insufficient knowledge of Chinese sentence structures V+不+V and Adj+不+Adj. They did not understand the meaning of the given alternatives as well as the meaning of the questions. Hence, they ended up making a guess work by choosing alternatives randomly. For example, in items 2 and 3, the candidates did not understand the meaning of the sentences and the alternatives given. They also did not know the use of the syntactic structure V+过. For instance, in items 2 and 3, some candidates wrote 不多 (not many) and 不远 (not far) which were wrong responses.

Similarly, in items 4, 5 and 6, the candidates seemed not to have sufficient knowledge of the Chinese sentence structure, V+不+V and Adj+不+Adj. For example, in item 4, the candidates were asked 你同学会不会骑自行车 (Is your classmate able to ride a bicycle or not?). In responding to this question, some candidates chose 不远 (not far) which was incorrect.

In item 5, the candidates were asked 地铁跑的快不快 (Is the Subway fast or not?) and they chose 来过 (came). In item 6, they were asked 公共汽车上人多不多 (Are People in the public bus many or not?) and answered 坐过 (taken a transport). All of these responses were incorrect. This implies that the candidates did not master well the short form of answering question. Extract 9.3 is a sample of responses from a candidate with weak performance in question 9.

Extract 9.3: A is a sample of candidate's incorrect responses to question 9.

Extract 9.3, illustrates the performance of the candidate who wrote incorrect answers in all items.

2.4.2 Question 10: Filling in the Blanks by Using the Given Words

In this question, the question comprised 5 items in which the candidates were required to choose the correct answers from the given alternatives and fill in the blanks. The question was set from the topic of Transportation and Time. The question examined the candidates' ability to describe weather. The question was as follows:

十. 选词填空，第一题答案已给出。

A 离　　　B 下　　　C 最　　　D 外　　　E 对面　　F 名字

Nǐ jiào shénme　　　?
1. 你叫 什么（ F ）?

Tāmen cóng shānshang zǒu　　　shānqù.
2. 他们 从 山上 走（　）山去。

Tā shì wǒmen xuéxiào　　　gāo de xuésheng.
3. 他是我们 学校（　）高的学生。

Túshūguǎn　　　tǐ yù guǎn hěn yuǎn.
4. 图书馆（　）体育馆 很 远。

Dòngwùyuán zài bówùguǎn　　　.
5. 动物园 在博物馆 （　）。

Chuāng　　　de fēngjǐng piàoliang jí le.
6. 窗（　）的风景 漂亮 极了。

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A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 99 (30.4%) candidates scored from 4 to 5 marks, which is a good performance, 116 (37.5%) candidates scored from 2 to 3 marks which is an average performance and 94 (32.0%) candidates scored from 0 to 1 mark which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was good, since 210 (68.0%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 10 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 10.
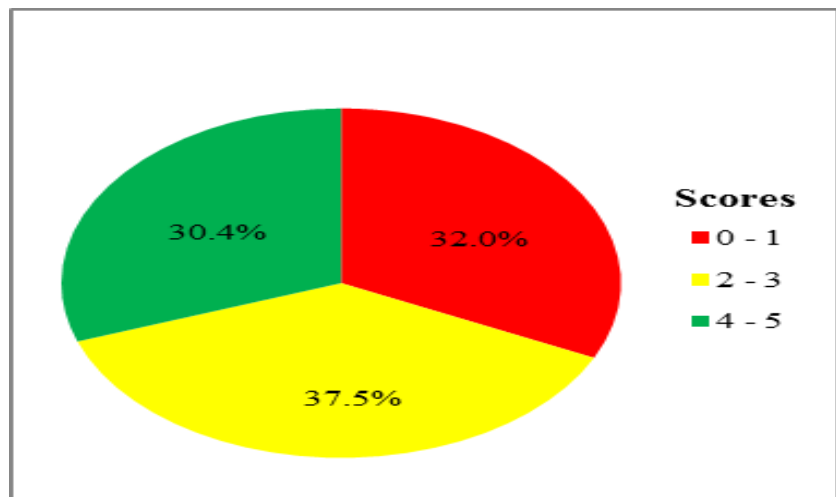

Figure 10: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 10*

The data analysis shows that 99 (30.4%) candidates had good performance as they scored from 4 to 5 marks. These candidates had sufficient vocabulary and grammar which enabled them to choose the correct answers. For example, in item 2, the candidates chose the correct answer 下 (down) to make a sentence. They knew that 下 is the complement word of direction and that it was used in the sentence to show down of the mountain.

In item 3, the candidates were required to choose an adverb of degree 最 (most) which was emphasing the pronoun 他 (he). The candidates knew that 高 (high) is an adjective which should be used before an adverb. The adverb 最 (most) was the

only adverb mentioned among the given alternatives. Thus, they chose the correct answer.

In item 4, most of the candidates chose the correct answer A 离 (away from) as they knew that the question required them, to state the distance from the library to the gym. The correct word was 离 (away from) which is used to show the distance from one place to another.

In item 5, the candidates were required to choose a word which shows direction. These candidates scored full marks because they mastered well the structure N+在+N+方向 (direction). Therefore, they chose E 对面 as the correct answer.

In item 6, the candidates understood the meaning of the sentence and the given alternatives. They knew that the word 窗 (window) co-occurs with the word 外 (outside) to complete the word 窗外 which means outside the window. Extract 10.1 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 10.

十.	2. B.			
	3. C.			
	4. A.			
	5. E.			
	6 D.			

Extract 10.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 10.

Extract 10.1 shows the performance of a candidate who filled the brackets with the correct answers in all items.

Moreover, the data analysis shows that 116 (37.5%) candidates had performed averagely as they scored from 2 to 3 marks. The candidates were able to answer some questions correctly while failed in other items. These candidates had partial knowledge of the meaning of Chinese vocabulary. For example, in items 3 and 6, some candidates opted for A 离 (away from) which was wrong because 离 is used to show the distance from one

place to another but the sentence given was not talking about distance. Thus they failed to identify the meaning of a particular word and its uses in the sentence.

In item 4, some candidates opted D 外 (outside), which was incorrect because the sentence was talking about distance between the 图书馆 (library) and 体育馆 (sport ground). 外 (Outside) was incorrect because it cannot be used between two nouns of place to show distance. Extract 10.2 is a sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance.

Extract 10.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 10.

In Extract 10.2, the candidate filled in the brackets with correct responses in items 2, 3 and 5 but failed in items 4 and 6.

Furthermore, the data analysis indicates that 94 (32.0%) candidates had a weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. These candidates did not understand the given question due to inadequate knowledge of Chinese vocabulary, meaning and its uses. Some candidates left the question unanswered. For example, in item 2, some candidates opted D (外) instead of B 下 (down) as the only word that co-occurs with the verb 走 (walk). They did not understand the meaning of the word 山上 (top of mountain) as well as that of the whole sentence.

In item 3, the candidates were supposed to choose an adverb of degree C 最 (most) to emphasize on the pronoun 他 (he/him)

but some candidates chose B 下 (down) which was an incorrect response.

In item 4, some candidates opted for alternative C 最 (most) in the statement which expresses the distance from the 图书馆 (library) to the 体育馆 instead of choosing a word 离 (away from) as a correct answer.

In item 5, the candidates were supposed to be conversant with the structure N+在+N+方向 (direction). Some candidates failed to choose the correct answer E 对面 (opposite) and ended up choosing C 最 (most) which was incorrect. This proves that these candidates did not understand the meaning of the sentence.

In item 6, the candidates were given a sentence talking about beautiful scenery outside the window. They were supposed to choose alternative D 外 (outside) which had to be attached to the noun 窗 (window) to form a complete word 窗外 (outside the window). Some of them opted E 对面 which was an incorrect answer. Extract 10.3 is a sample of responses from a candidate with weak performance.

Extract 10.3: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 10.

In Extract 10.3, the candidate failed to fill in the brackets with the correct answer in all items.

2.4.3 Question 11: Answering the Questions Using Chinese Characters

The question comprised 5 items in which the candidates had to answer by using Chinese characters. The question was set from the topic of Introducing oneself and friends, School and Jobs. The question aimed at testing the candidates' ability to introduce oneself, home town and describe someone is daily schedule, jobs, work place and future occupation. The question was as follows:

十一. 回答问题。用汉字书写。

    Lìrú：   Nǐ jiào shénme míngzi?
    例如：你叫 什么 名字？

    Wǒ jiào Xiǎomíng.
    我 叫 小 明   。

    Nǐ jiā zài nǎr?
1. 你家在哪儿？

_____。

    Nǐ yǒu jǐ ge hǎo péngyou?
2. 你有几个好 朋友？

    Nǐ měitiān jǐdiǎn qǐchuáng?
3. 你 每天 几点 起 床？

_____。

    Nǐ zuì xǐhuan shàng shénme kè?
4. 你 最喜欢 上 什么 课？

_____。

    Nǐ xiǎng zuò shénme gōngzuò?
5. 你 想 做 什么 工作？

_____。

A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 160 (51.8%) candidates scored from 6 to 10 marks, which is a good performance, 73 (23.6%) candidates scored from 3 to 5.5 marks which is an average performance and 75 (24.6%) candidates scored from 0 to 2.5 marks which is a weak

performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was good, since 233 (75.4%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 11 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 11.
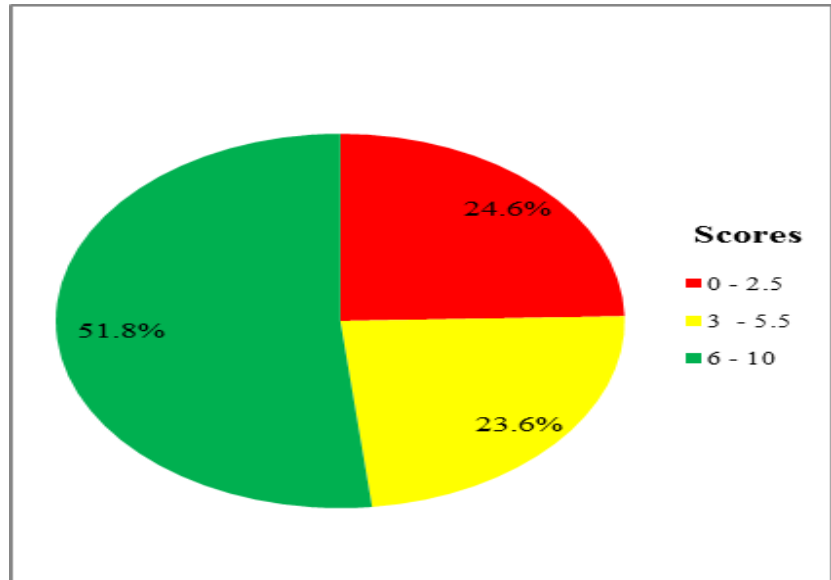

Figure 11: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 11*

The data analysis shows that 160 (51.8%) candidates had a good performance as they scored from 6 to 10 marks. They had sufficient knowledge on Chinese language grammar as well as its sentence structure. They understood the requirement of the question and responded to it correctly. For example, in item 1, the candidates were asked 你家在哪儿？ (Where is your home?). The candidates who scored full mark mastered the structure S+在+O (place name) and helped them to write the correct answer.

In the item 2, the candidates were asked 你有几个好朋友？ (How many best friends do you have?) and they were required to mention the number of best friends they have. The candidates in this category had sufficient knowledge of Chinese language structure as well as the use of the interrogative pronoun 几 (how many).

In item 3, the candidates were required to answer the question which was 你每天几点起床 (At what time do you wake up every day?). The candidates who responded to the question correctly knew how to tell time in Chinese. They also managed to identify the word 几 when that is used to ask about time. Also they mastered the Chinese numbers correctly.

In item 4, the candidates were asked 你最喜欢上什么课？ (Which subjects do you like most?). Those who responded correctly understood the question and knew how to write the subject 我 (I) in Chinese character.

In item 5, the candidates were asked 你想做什么工作？ (What type of job do you want to do?). Those who scored full mark were familiar with the way of answering the questions using the interrogative pronoun 什么 (what). Extract 11.1 is sample of correct responses from a candidte with good performance.

Extract 11.1: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 11.

In Extract 11.1, the candidate answered all questions correctly in all items correctly.

Moreover, the data analysis reveals that 73 (23.6%) candidates performed averagely as they scored from 3 to 5.5 marks. These candidates answered correctly questions in some items but failed in others. These candidates had insufficient knowledge of Chinese language structure as they failed to answer some

questions. For example, in item 2, some candidates wrote wrong responses because they either did not understand the meaning of the question or did not know how to answer the question. The candidates were asked 你有几个好朋友？(How many best friends do you have?) and responded 我没有几个好朋友 (I don't have several best friends). This implies these candidates did not master the uses of the interrogative particle 几 (how many).

In item 4, the candidates were asked 你最喜欢上什么课？ (Which subject do you like to attend mostly?). The candidates managed to answer the question but they forgot the characters of the subjects. Some of them responded 我喜欢上中国人课 (I like to attend Chinese person class) and others wrote 我最喜欢上书课 (I like to attend book class).

In item 5, the candidates were asked 你想做什么工作？ (What type of job do you want to do?) but they failed due to insufficient knowledge of writing Chinese characters. Some candidates did not understand the question hence they responded anyhow. For example, some candidates in thia category wrote 我想做汽车工作 (I want to do vehicle job) instead of writing 我想做司机工作 (I want to be a driver). This implies that they failed to distinguish between the word 司机 (driver) and 汽车 (car). Extract 11.2 is a sample of responses to question 11 from a candidate who performed averagely in this question.

十一	01.	wǒ jiā zài					
		我 家 在 DAR-ES-SALAAM ，					
	02.	wǒ méi yǒu jǐ ge hǎo péng you					
		我 没 有 几 个 好 朋友。					
	03.	wǒ méi tiān jǐ diǎn qǐ chuáng					
		我 每 天 几 点 起 床 。					
	04.	wǒ zuì xǐ huan shàng kè xué kè					
		我 最 喜欢 上 科 学 课。					
	05.	wǒ xiǎng zuò qì chē gōng zuò.					
		我 想 做 汽 车 工 作。					

Extract 11.2: A sample of responses from a candidate with an average performance in question 11.

In Extract 11.2, a candidate wrote correct answers in items 1 and 4 but failed in items 2, 3 and 5.

Furthermore, the data analysis indicates that 75 (24.6%) candidates had a weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. Some candidates scored 0 because they did not understand the requirement of the question while others did not understand the meaning of the question. This was due to their insufficient knowledge of Chinese language sentence structure, grammar as well as vocabulary. This made them to write words which were not related with the questions. On the other hand, others candidates copied some sentences from the question paper and treated them as answers. Some candidates left the question unanswered. For example, in item 1, the candidates were asked 你家在哪儿？ (Where is your home) and they were required to use the structure S+在+O (noun of place) to answer this question. Some candidates wrote 我家在坦桑尼亚人 thereby confusing nationality 坦桑尼亚人 (Tanzanian) with the country 坦桑尼亚 (Tanzania).

In item 2, the candidates were asked 你有几个好朋友？ (How many best friends do you have?) but some of them wrote such

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an incorrect answer as 公共汽车上人多不多 (In a public bus are there many people or not), which they copied from matching item section.

In item 3, the candidates were required to answer the question 你每天几点起床 (at what time do you get up every day?). The candidates who responded incorrectly in this question did not know the meaning of the sentence as well as the way of telling time in the Chinese language. Some candidates wrote 你不好朋友 (you not good friend) which was incorrect and did not conform to the requirement of the question. Other some candidates copied sentences from the question paper 你朋友没有去过广州 (Your friend never went to Guanzhou).

In item 4, the candidates were asked 你最喜欢上什么课？ (Which subject do you like to attend mostly?) and they were required to mention the subjects they like to attend mostly, but some of them wrote 我最喜欢上中国课 (I like to study China lesson). This was wrong because 中国 is a Country and not a subject. Thus the candidates did not understand what they were asked.

In item 5, some candidates did not understand the question due to the partial knowledge of Chinese language vocabulary. They were asked 你想做什么工作 (what type of job do you want to do?) but some candidates wrote 地铁跑快不快 (is subway fast or not) while others wrote 我想做工作 (1 want to do a work). Extract 11.3 is a sample of responses to question 11 from a candidate who performed weakly in this question.

十一.	公共汽车上人多不多	
2.	你朋友有没有去过广州	
3.	地铁跑得快不快	
4.	你同学会不会骑自行车	
5.	地铁跑快不快	

Extract 11.3: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 11.

In Extract 11.3, the candidate wrote incorrect answers in all items.

2.5 SECTION E: COMPOSITION

This section comprised two questions; question 12 and 13. In question 12, the candidates were given 5 jumbled sentences and were required to rearrange them into a meaningful paragraph. In question 13, the candidates were given a title "My best friend" and they were required to write a composition ranging from 60 to 80 words by using the Chinese characters. Each question carried 10 marks, making a total of 20 marks.

2.5.1 Question 12: Re-arranging the Jumbled Sentences to Make a Meaningful Paragraph

In this question, the candidates were required to re-arrange the sentences correctly into a meaningful paragraph by writing the corresponding letters. The question was set from the topic of Introducing Oneself and Friends. It tested the candidates' ability to organize ideas logically in the Chinese language. The question was as follows.

十二. 为下面句子重新排序，组成短文，其中一句已经给出。

Wǒ de hǎo péngyou Lìshā shì Tǎn sāng ní yà rén.
A 我的 好 朋友 丽莎是 坦 桑尼亚 人。

Kě shì tā xià ge xīngqī jiùyào huí Tǎn sāng ní yà le.
B 可是她下个星期就要 回坦 桑 尼亚了。

Wǒ jiào Lǐ Yuè， wǒ shì Zhōngguó rén.
C 我叫 李月， 我是 中 国 人。

Yīn wèi tā de hàn yǔ shuō de hěn hǎo.
D 因为 她的汉语 说的 很好。

Huān yíng tā zài dào Zhōngguó lái.
E 欢 迎 她再到 中 国 来。

Suóyǐ tā dào Běijīng lái shàng xué.
F 所以她到 北京 来 上 学。

A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 40 (12.9%) candidates scored from 7 to 10 marks, which is a good performance, 144 (46.6%) candidates scored from 4 to 6 marks which is an average performance and 125 (40.5%) candidates scored from 0 to 2 marks which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was average, since 184 (59.5%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 5 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 12.
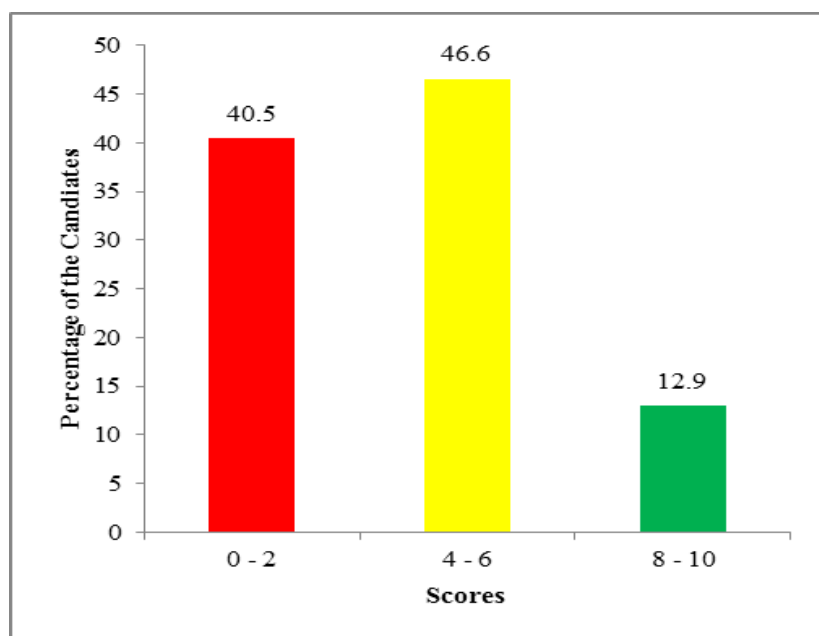
Figure 12: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 12*

The data analysis shows that 144 (46.6%) candidates performed averagely as they scored from 4 to 6 marks. These candidates were able to re-arrange sentences in some items but failed in others. The candidates had partial knowledge of Chinese sentence structure and the meaning of the vocabulary. For example, most of them scored full mark in items 2 and 6 but failed in other items. Most of the candidates confused alternative D with F because they did not master the grammar of 因为....所以. Extract 12.1 is a sample of responses from a candidate who performed averagely in question 12.

Extract 12.1: A sample of the candidate's responses from a candidate with average performance in question 12.

In Extract 12.1, the candidate re-arranged correctly the jumbled sentences in items 2 and 3 but failed in items 4, 5 and 6.

Furthermore, the data analysis shows that 125 (40.5%) candidates had a weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2 marks. These candidates failed to re-arrange correctly sentences in all items because they did not understand the meaning of the sentences.

The reasons behind the candidates' failure is their insufficient knowledge of Chinese grammar and the given vocabulary. For example, the candidates were required to identify the structure 因为……所以 which could help them to link the correct sentence by combining D and F. They also failed to identify the words 可是 (but) and 欢迎 (welcome) which could help them to link sentences B and E to conclude the passage. Extract 12.2 is a sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 12.

Extract 12.2: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 12.

In Extract 12.2, the candidate failed to re-arrange all the jumbled sentences.

The data analysis indicates that 40 (12.9%) candidates performed well as they scored from 8 to 10 marks. These candidates were able to re-arrange the sentences correctly to make a meaningful paragraph. They organized ideas logically and they had sufficient knowledge of Chinese sentence structure as well as grammatical pattern Extract 12.2 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 12.

十二	1. C		
	2. A		
	3. D		
	4. F		
	5. B		
	6. E		

Extract 12.2: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 12.

In Extract 12.2, the candidate re-arranged all the jumbled sentences by writing correct letters of the corresponding numbers.

2.5.2 Question 13: Writing Composition

This question had a title written 我的好朋友 (My best friend) which was set from the topic of Introducing Oneself and Friends. The question aimed to examine the candidates' ability to introduce themselves, their hometown and provide other basic information. The question was as follows.

十三. 根据所给话题写一篇 60 到 80 字的短文。

Huàtí: Wǒ de hǎo péngyou
话题：我 的 好朋友

A total of 309 (100%) candidates attempted the question, out of whom 47 (15.2%) candidates scored from 6 to 10 marks, which is a good performance, 112 (36.2%) candidates scored from 3 to 5.5 marks which is an average performance and 150 (48.5%) candidates scored from 0 to 2.5 marks which is a weak performance. The candidates' general performance in this question was average, since 159 (51.5%) candidates scored 30% or above. Figure 13 summarizes the candidates' performance in question 13.
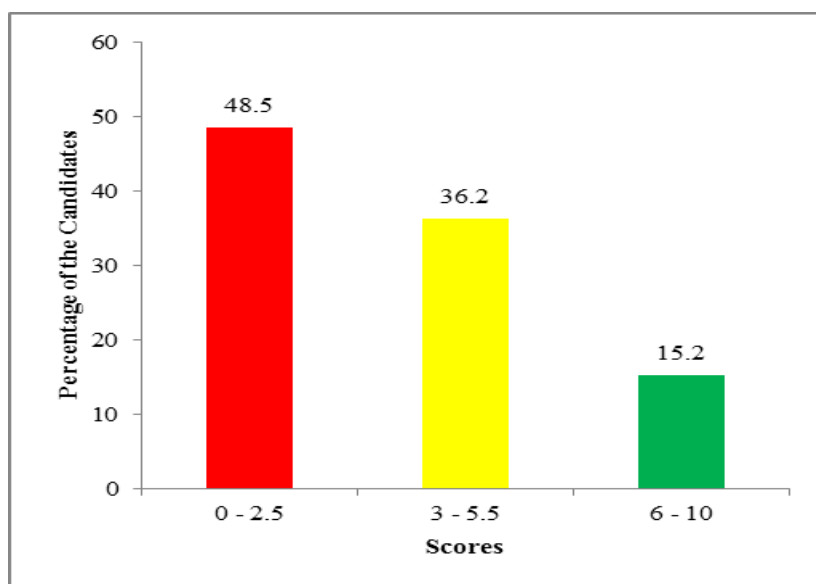
Figure 13: *The Percentages of the Candidates' Performance in Question 13*

A total of 150 (48.5%) candidates scored from 3 to 5.5 marks which is regarded as average performance. The candidates were able to write a composition correctly but failed to organize their ideas logically. Other candidates performed averagely because they had partial knowledge of Chinese characters and sentence structures which hindered them from obtaining full marks. Some candidates copied sentences from the question paper and treated them as answers.

On the other hand, the data analysis shows that 47 (15.2%) candidates had a weak performance as they scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. These candidates did not understand the requirement of the question. Some candidates were unable to write a composition as they decided to copy some words and sentences from the passage in question paper. Few of them responded by using pinyin whereas others wrote incomprehensible sentences. Others left the question unanswered. Extract 13.1 is a sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 13.

十三. Wǒ jiào Mwanthuwe, jiā nián shì fēi jù suì shì Tǎnsāngníyà rén. Wǒ de péngyou Nduni shì Zhōngguó rén, tā jiā zài Shànghǎi. Wǒ méi qù guò Shànghǎi, dàn shì qù guò Běijīng hé Guǎngzhōu. Guǎngzhōu bù tài dà, Běijīng dà de bǐ de liǎo Guǎngzhōu. Xià tiān bǐ Běijīng rè de dùo. Jià qī dào le, Wǒ yào gēn jiějie yì qǐ qù zhōngguó, cóng Tǎnsāng nǐ yà dào Běijīng zuò fēi jī yào shí qǐ gè xiǎo shí. Wǒmen yào zài Běijīng tíngliú yí gè xīngqī, imixiǎng cān guān Guǎng hǎi xiǎng qù Chángchéng. Wǒmen hái yào cóng Běijīng dào Shànghǎi qù. Wǒ péi Nduni fù te dào zì yóu jiān, Wǒmen zài gè Chǎng jiànmiàn, dà jiā dōu hěn gāo xìng.

Extract 13.1: A sample of the candidate's incorrect responses to question 13.

In Extract 13.1, the candidate wrote a composition by using pinyin some of them were wrongly marked.

The data analysis shows that 47 (15.2%) candidates had good performance, as they scored from 6 to 10 marks. These candidates were able to write the compositions by using Chinese characters. They had adequate knowledge of Chinese vocabulary which helped them to write their compositions by using Chinese characters and grammatical sentences. However, they failed to score full marks because they committed few errors in writing Chinese characters. Extract 13.2 is a sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 13.

我的好朋友

十三

我叫周久是坦桑尼亚人。我有一个好朋友他叫马双，他是男孩子住在中国他的出生日期是二零零四年五月五号现在十八岁了。他比我大。他的爱好是看中文书打篮球，听音乐也喜看网上新闻。

虽然中国离坦桑尼亚很远可是我们常寄发电子邮件他说到假期他想来坦桑尼亚放问我。所以我很高兴也欢迎他来我家。

Extract 13.2: A sample of the candidate's correct responses to question 13.

Extract 13.3, indicates the performance of the candidate who managed to write a good composition.

3.0   PERFORMANCE OF THE CANDIDATES IN EACH TOPIC

The Chinese Language examination had 13 questions which were based on the topics of *Comprehension*, *Vocabulary Use*, *Grammar Use*, *Language Use* and *Composition*.

The data analysis indicates that the candidates had good and average performance. The good performance was in the topics of *Grammar Use* (81.7%), *Comprehension* (81.6%), *Vocabulary Use* (80.1%) *and Language Use* (80.0%). The good performance was attributed by the candidates' ability to understand the requirements of the questions and their sufficient knowledge and skills on the topics tested. On the other hand, the topic of *Composition (46.8%)* had an average performance which was attributed to the candidates' partial knowledge of the Chinese grammar.

Furthermore, the analysis shows that in 2022, the candidates' performance on candidates per each topic was good and average. The 2022 performance is good compared to that of the year 2021. The increased in performance in each topic is as follows: *Language Use* 17.3% *Grammar Use* increased by 10.9%, *Vocabulary Use* increased by 9.5%, *Composition 4.5%* and *Comprehension* increased by 1.1%.

The general performance of the topics in 2022 is good, since 95.8 percent of the candidates scored 30% or above. The analysis of the candidates' performance in each topic is summarised in Appendices I and II.

4.0   CONCLUSION

The candidates' performance in the Chinese Language subject in CSEE 2022 was good, since 296 (95.8%) candidates passed the examination and only 13 (4.2%) candidates failed.

The analysis reveals that the candidates who had good performance in this examination had sufficient knowledge of the Chinese Language grammar. Despite the good performance, some candidates had average performance while others had weak performance. These candidates had insufficient knowledge on the topics from which the examination questions were set.

5.0   RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to improve the candidates' performance in the Chinese Language subject, it is recommended that:

(a)   Teachers should guide student on how to write logical paragraphs or compositions by giving them pictures, cards and simple titles.

(b)   Teachers should encourage students to read simple texts related to the topics in order to improve their vocabulary and grammar patterns.

(c)   Teachers should guide the candidates on how to write pinyin by applying features such as tones, initials, finals and syllable formation.

Summary of the Candidates' Performance per Topic for the Chinese Language Subject in CSEE 2022

S/N	Topic	Qn. Number	% of Candidates who Scored an Average of 30 Percent or Above in each Question	% of Candidates who Scored an Average of 30 Percent or Above in each Topic	Remarks
1.	Comprehension	1	96.8	81.6	Good
		2	66.3		
2.	Vocabulary Use	3	70.6	80.1	Good
		4	75.1		
		5	94.5		
3.	Grammar Use	6	82.5	81.7	Good
		7	93.2		
		8	69.3		
4.	Language Use	9	95.8	80.0	Good
		10	68.0		
		11	75.4		
5.	Composition	12	42.4	46.8	Average
		13	51.2		

Comparison Summary of the Candidates' Performance per Topic for 2021 and 2022

S/N	2021				2022			
	Topic	Number of Questions	Percentage of Students who Scored an Average of 30 Percent or Above	Remarks	Topic	Number of Questions	Percentage of Students who Scored an Average of 30 Percent or Above	Remarks
1.	Comprehension	2	70.7	Good	Comprehension	2	81.6	Good
2.	Vocabulary Use	3	79.0	Good	Vocabulary Use	3	80.1	Good
3.	Grammar Use	3	72.2	Good	Grammar Use	3	81.7	Good
4.	Language Use	3	62.7	Good	Language Use	3	80.0	Good
5	Composition	2	42.3	Good	Composition	2	46.8	Average