

# MODERN STANDARD CHINESE (MAURITIUS)

Paper 3252/01  
Composition

## Key messages

To do well in this paper, candidates need to:

- ensure that they answer **one** question from **Section A** and **one** question from **Section B**.
- adhere to the word limits specified.
- ensure that their work is legible, accurate and logically presented.
- show an awareness of the conventions of paragraphing and sentence structure.
- demonstrate adequate control of vocabulary, syntax and grammar, punctuation and Spelling.
- understand and be able to employ a range of appropriate vocabulary.
- be able to present facts, ideas and opinions in an organized way.
- ensure that they present their response in the form stipulated in the question (e.g., letter, dialogue).
- plan their use of time for each question and allow time for thorough checking of their work.

## General comments

In general, candidates performed well on this paper.

In **Section A**, topic **1(a)** and **(c)** were the most popular questions. The vast majority of candidates chose **1(a)** and **1(c)** with **1(b)** being the second most popular question. Performance on this section was quite good on the whole. 36 per cent of the candidates got full marks.

In **Section B**, **Question 2(c)** was the most popular choice with candidates. **2(d)** was the second most popular question followed by **2(b)**. No candidate chose **2(a)**. Performance in this section was not as good as in **Section A**.

It was encouraging to note that stronger candidates made very few spelling and grammatical errors. Weaker candidates generally struggled to construct sentences accurately and made frequent spelling and grammatical mistakes.

The most common spelling errors occurred in the use of the following Chinese characters, which were often written in an incorrect form (The wrong spelling is given on the right):

东西: 东 西 永远: 远 需要: 要 每次: 每 睡觉: 觉  
家里: 家 里 留出: 留 出 感到: 到 当然: 然 牛肉: 肉  
英文: 英 文 至今: 至 今 银行: 行 问题: 问 很高兴: 很 快乐  
放弃: 放 气 汽车: 气 车 他说: 他 话 以后: 比 后 烙印: 烙 印  
应该: 应 友 朋友: 朋 有 让你: 认 你 关于: 管 于 住院: 往 院

重新：从新 真实：真<sup>上</sup>笑 冷天：冷<sup>上</sup>天 你好：你<sup>子</sup> 相信：相<sup>信</sup>

许久未见：许<sup>未</sup>久见 太晚了：太<sup>晚</sup>了 喜爱：喜<sup>爱</sup> 思考：思<sup>考</sup>

Sentences which were wrongly written (grammatical mistakes):

- 1 我很喜欢吃的妈妈的做得中餐。
- 2 今天，我早晨我刚醒来我街道一个陌生的电话的。
- 3 我的爸爸说我吃一个中餐第一次。
- 4 我写你是因为我说了你们我最喜欢的中餐。
- 5 我不吃我做我的东西。
- 6 书是很贵很大，我真生气的带地大书区学校。
- 7 人工智能好太了，人们用它把每天。
- 8 人工智能有很多好的用，它做我们的生命容易。
- 8 因为电子书比纸印书不贵。
- 10 你忘你的书还是你要读电子书。
- 11 虽然我没帮了什么忙但是看到你笑我很高兴。

There were also some very good sentences, such as:

- 1 你就不能多读电子书吗，比纸印书不知要好上多少倍呢。
- 2 我听说成都的中餐都很好吃，但是我最喜欢的是饺子。
- 3 陌生人不说话，我的手心沁出了冷汗，我紧紧攥着衣角。
- 4 虽然事情已经过去，但是那件事却深深地烙印在我的脑海里。
- 5 看到他开心的笑，让我觉得帮人是一件很快乐的事。
- 6 那是一个星期天的早晨，听到鸟儿的歌声我就醒了。
- 7 我一听就知道那个人有可能是个骗子，所以就立马挂了电话。
- 8 电子书是很方便，但我更喜欢的是纸印书真实的手感和翻书的声音。
- 8 这是我人生中最难忘也是最开心的一天。
- 10 第二天早上我打开手机就看到很多老年人接了陌生电话被骗的新闻。
- 11 我每天都要努力工作才可以赚到更多的钱。

### Section A – Letter, Report or Speech, Dialogue

Candidates were required to write a response of appropriately **120** words in **Chinese** on one of three given topics.

In **Question 1(a)**, candidates had to write a letter on the topic ‘Your name is Wang Xin and you live in Port Louis, Mauritius. Write a letter to a friend, who lives in Chengdu, telling him/her about your favourite Chinese food.’ This question was fairly popular. Some fluent essays were seen here.

**Question 1(b)**, required candidates to write a speech on the topic ‘Write a speech for your school assembly with the title ‘Every student should join an after-school club’’. This was not a popular topic.

A range of performance was seen in **Question 1(c)**, which asked candidates to write a dialogue on the topic ‘You like reading e-books. Your sister prefers reading paper books. Write a dialogue between you and your sister where you try to convince her that reading e-books is better.’ This question was the most popular and there were some quite good essays.

### Section B – Essay

Candidates were asked to write an essay of approximately **200** words in **Chinese** from a choice of four given topics.

**Question 2(a)** required candidates to describe a newly opened night market where you went with your family. This was not a popular option as no candidate chose to do it.

In **Question 2(b)**, candidates had to give their opinion on ‘*The development of artificial intelligence is doing more harm than good.*’ This was also not a popular option.

A range of performances was seen on **Question 2(c)**, which required candidates to narrate ‘Just after you woke up in the morning, you received a phone call from a stranger’ and what happened next. This was the most popular question in this section. The more successful candidates were able to create very good narrations. There were some fluent essays, with good vocabulary and narrative techniques.

In **Question 2(d)**, candidates had to give their opinion on ‘School should reduce the number of art and music lessons and give more time to science subjects.’ This question was the second most popular question in this section. The strongest responses were characterised by fluency and varied sentence structures.

# MODERN STANDARD CHINESE (MAURITIUS)

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Paper 3252/02  
Translation and Reading  
Comprehension

## Key messages

Candidates generally responded well to this paper, with the majority of candidates demonstrating a good understanding of the passages and sound skills in translating and expressing themselves in Chinese.

Candidates are reminded that it is important to:

- read the translation passages carefully before beginning to translate.
- show that they can understand and adequately convey information from the English version to the target language and vice-versa.
- be able to recognise implicit meaning and attitude.
- select and evaluate information relevant to specific purposes and express it in their own words.
- show a sense of audience and an awareness of register.
- understand and employ a range of appropriate vocabulary.
- demonstrate an awareness of the conventions of sentence structure.

## General comments

Overall, a range of good performances was seen on this paper. The vast majority of candidates provided accurate translations of the English in well-written Chinese. Mistakes that were made were either careless slips or uncertainty over words such as 'Mother-tongue, video calls, local community, fluent', and 'Forbidden City'. Candidates should always check their work and polish their translations to improve it.

## **Section A – Translation**

### **Question 1: Translation into English**

Candidates were required to translate a passage from Chinese into English. The majority of candidates coped very well with this exercise which carries 10% of total marks. An important number of candidates scored very high marks in this question. Some of the common errors found in scripts related to the translation of the following words:

讨论 to discuss	是否 If/whether	应该 should
节省 save	时间 time	花时间 spend time
选衣服 choose clothes	避免 to avoid	相互 each other
攀比 The comparisons of	反对 object	单一 plain

## Question 2: Translation into Chinese

Candidates were required to translate a passage from English into Chinese. This question carries 20% of the total marks. Some candidates did well in this question. Weaker candidates had difficulty writing accurate Chinese.

Some of the common errors found in scripts related to the translation of the following words:

She doesn't have many chances 她没有很多机会	to speak her native language 讲母语	She continues learning 但她继续学习
Her mother-tongue language 母语	In her local community 在她当地的社区	furthermore 而且
makes video calls 视频	In their hometown 在他们的家乡	Fluent Chinese 流利的中文
This summer 今年夏天	to travel to China 去中国旅游	Apart from 除了.....以外.....
Visiting her family and friends 看家人和朋友	The Great Wall 长城	The Forbidden City 故宫
And other 和其他	Peking duck 北京烤鸭	is her favourite food 是她最喜欢的食物
She will definitely 她一定会	a famous 一家有名的	restaurant in Beijing 北京饭馆
Where she can taste 在那里她可以品尝	this delicious roast dish 这道美食	

## Section B – Reading Comprehension

Candidates were required to answer the questions based on a given passage. This question carries 25 marks. The majority of candidates demonstrated excellent understanding of the passage, and performance on this question was generally excellent.

### Questions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9

Candidates coped very well with these questions, often scoring full marks.

**Question 3** 环境跟人类有什么关系？请回答两点。

The expected answers were:“是人类生存的基本条件” and “健康的保障”。  
This question was successfully attempted by most candidates.

**Question 4** 每个国家都是如何重视保护环境的？请回答两点。

The expected answers were:“各国政府主要任务” and “人民的共同行动”。  
This question was very well attempted on the whole.

**Question 5** 什么可以体现这个国家的整体环境？请回答两点。

The expected answers were:“是否文明” and “国民素质”。The majority of candidates attempted this question well.

**Question 6** 根据课文，什么会对国民健康造成影响？请回答三点。

The expected answers were:“空气污染、垃圾泛滥” and “饮水质量不达标”。The majority of candidates attempted this question well.

**Question 7** 政府需要作什么来保护环境？请回答三点。

The expected answers were: “制定法律、采取经济措施” and “因推广先进科学技术”。

The majority of candidates attempted this question well. Some candidates only gave one or two elements of answer instead of three elements of answer, leading to a loss of marks.

**Question 8** 怎样才能实现环保目标？请回答四点。

The expected answer was: “政府引导、公众意识、主动学习相关知识” and “养成良好的习惯”。 There were four elements of answer in this question. The majority of candidates attempted this question well, but some candidates gave only two or three elements answer instead of 4. Hence, they did not score full marks.

**Question 9** 平时我们日常做些什么能保护环境？请回答三点。

The expected answers were: “走路去学校、节约用水” and “出门关灯”。 The majority of candidates attempted this question well. Some candidates only gave one element of answer instead of three elements of answer.

### **Question 10 – Vocabulary**

This question assessed knowledge of basic vocabulary in reading comprehension. Different kinds of vocabulary items were tested through giving synonyms or antonyms in this question. Candidates could choose any three questions to answer. The popular items were (ii), (iv) and (v). They carried 6 marks. The majority of candidates could cope well in this question. Weaker candidates struggled with this question.

**Item (i)** “修养”的同义词是什么？

The expected answer was: “素质”. Some candidates wrongly gave “养成、任务、保障” and “成为” as the answer.

**Item (ii)** “弥漫”的同义词是什么？

The expected answer was: “泛滥”. Some candidates wrongly gave “行动、制定” as they did not understand the meaning of the words “弥漫”。

**Item (iii)** “压制”的反义词是什么？

The expected answer was: “推广”. It seems that the candidates could not understand the meaning of the words “压制” as no candidate chose the item to answer.

**Item (iv)** “不可或缺”的同义词是什么？

The expected answer was: “必不可少”. The majority of candidates attempted this question well.

**Item (v)** “浪费”的反义词是什么？

The expected answer was: “节约”。

Some candidates wrongly gave “普通” as the answer.