

HSK 1

Level description

The HSK Level 1 exam assesses your ability to use everyday Chinese at Level 1 in the “Chinese Language Proficiency Scales for Speakers of Other Languages” and Level A1 in the “Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)”.

Candidates who pass the HSK Level 1 exam can understand and use some very simple Chinese words and sentences to meet specific communication needs, and are able to take the next step in their Chinese studies.

Candidate description

HSK Level 1 is intended for candidates who have been studying Chinese for one semester (half an academic year) with 2-3 hours of class time a week, and who have mastered 150 of the most frequently used words and related grammar points.

Test structure

HSK (Level 1) has a total of 40 questions, divided into listening and reading sections. The entire exam takes about 40 minutes (including 5 minutes for candidates to fill in personal information).

Test Content		Number of test questions (items)		Test duration (minutes)
Listening	Section 1	5	20	About 15
	Section 2	5		
	Section 3	5		
	Section 4	5		
Filling in the answer sheet (transferring the answers of the listening part to the answer sheet)				3
Reading	Section 1	5	20	17
	Section 2	5		
	Section 3	5		

	Section 4	5		
Total		40		35

Listening 100 points	Part 1 (5 questions) Does the phrase you hear match the picture?
	Part 2 (5 questions) Select the picture that matches the sentence you hear.
	Part 3 (5 questions) Select the picture that matches the dialogue you hear.
	Part 4 (5 questions) Select the answer that matches the content and question you hear.
Reading 100 points	Part 1 (5 questions) Does the word match the picture?
	Part 2 (5 questions) Select the picture that matches the sentence.
	Part 3 (5 questions) Select the two sentences which go together.
	Part 4 (5 questions) Select the word to fill in the blank and complete the sentence.

HSK (Level 1) score report provides three scores: listening, reading, and total score. Achieving a full score entails earning 200 points, while a cumulative score of 120 or above qualifies as a passing mark. HSK scores are valid for two years (starting from the exam date).

Resources, vocabulary and sample papers can be found [here](#) and [here](#).