



GCSE CHINESE

WRITING REVISION GUIDE

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WRITING REVISION GUIDE

中学汉语写作指南

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中华人民共和国万岁

世界人民大团结万岁

User Guide

The book has six chapters. Each chapter has four or three units, covering all the topics in the GCSE syllabus on both Edexcel and AQA examination boards.

You do not have to use the book in linear order as each unit can be studied independently. Each unit consists of the following five parts:

- 1) **Warming Up** – revise key words and expressions as well as sentence structures for the current topic.
- 2) **Translation** – apply the language practiced in Warming Up to the translation task.
- 3) **Reading Comprehension** – expand the range of vocabulary and structures to prepare for the writing practice.
- 4) **Exam Writing Practice** – practice writing
- 5) **Wrapping Up** – consolidate the key structures and vocabulary

For Part Four 'Exam Writing Practice', there are two sections (4.1 and 4.2):

4.1 is controlled writing with bullet points (in Chapters 1 – 4, the writing practices in the first two units of each chapter are for the Foundation Tier, with the requirement to write 80-110 characters; and the last two units are set for the Higher Tier with 120 – 180 characters; in Chapters 5 and 6, the first unit is for the Foundation Tier, and the second unit is for the Higher Tier). Note that the character limit for AQA is 75 – 110 characters for the Foundation Tier, and 125 – 180 for the Higher Tier. For Edexcel it is 80 – 110 for the Foundation Tier, and 130 – 180 for the Higher Tier.

4.2 makes use of the sample answers to 4.1. For Foundation Tier units, add sentences to the sample answer to 4.1 to make it longer so as to meet the requirements for the Higher Tier; for Higher Tier units, 4.2 is either to answer questions in Chinese or fill in the blanks in Chinese based on the sample answer to 4.1.

When attempting Part Four, we suggest that you first go to Part Five to revise key structures and key vocabulary, and note down the things you wish to write about. Once you are confident, put all your notes away and try to write the whole piece under examination conditions.

After you complete the writing task, we strongly recommend that you use the Exam Writing Practice Checklist (for Foundation and Higher Tiers) at the very end of the book to assess your own writing as well as the sample answers to 4.1. For Chapters 1 and 2, sample answers are provided for the writing task together with a commentary explaining why this is a good piece of writing. When reading the sample answer to 4.1, it would be a good idea to check it against the relevant checklist to judge for yourself if it is a good piece of writing, and read the commentary afterwards. From Chapter 3 onwards, use the checklists to develop your ability to carry out self-evaluation. These two checklists are based on the marking criteria set out by GCSE exam boards.

For Part Five 'Wrapping Up', only key structures and words that are relevant to the topic of the unit and covered by GCSE syllabus are listed here. Grammar points that are covered in earlier units do not get repeated in later units. A grammar/key structure index is provided at the end of the book for easy reference. When new words outside GCSE syllabus are used in exercises and texts, they appear under 'New Words' directly below the relevant text. These new words are not listed in the Wrapping Up section. New words used in Grammar Notes and sample answers are not listed separately as English translations are provided. Please note that some words may be listed in more than one unit if they are key vocabulary needed to complete language activities of that unit. A glossary of key vocabulary arranged alphabetically according to the English entry is provided at the end of the book.

Sample answers to all the exercises are provided at the end of the book.

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CHAPTER ONE

My Life and My Friends

我的生活和朋友



Unit 1 My Family

第一单元 我的家庭

1 Part One Warming Up

1.1 Match the following family-related words/phrases with their English counterparts. Put the correct letter into the second column.

1. 家	
2. 孩子	
3. 结婚	
4. 朋友	
5. 家人	
6. 生日会	
7. 岁	

- A. family members
- B. birthday party
- C. child/children
- D. family
- E. friend(s)
- F. married
- G. years old

1.2 Sort the words/phrases into the categories below. Put each letter next to an appropriate category.

- A. 哥哥 B. 医生 C. 爷爷 D. 开生日会 E. 弟弟 F. 过春节
G. 过圣诞节 H. 姐姐 I. 老师 J. 看朋友 K. 妹妹 L. 奶奶

1. Family members _____
2. Profession _____
3. Things you do with family _____

1.3 Complete the sentences with the phrases in the box. Put the appropriate letter in the space provided.

1. _____, 也在上海长大。

A. 爸爸和妈妈有两个孩子

2. _____, 一个女儿, 一个儿子。

B. 没有弟弟

3. 我只有一个哥哥, _____。

C. 因为我的爷爷奶奶都住在北京

4. 我们全家要去北京过春节, _____。

D. 我和妹妹都在上海出生

NEW WORDS

长大

zhǎng dà

grow up

GRAMMAR NOTES: FUTURE TENSE

Unlike most European languages, writing about future events is a lot easier in Chinese. You may consider using one of the following structures.

(1) Use a verb such as 要 / 想 / 会 / 打算 / 计划 / 希望 + another verb.

我要开一个很大的生日会。(I'm going to have a big birthday party.)

(2) Use the structures that signify something will soon happen, such as 要 / 快 / 快要 / 就要 / 就快 + verb + 了.

春节快要来了。(The spring is coming.)

(3) Use a time expression such as 一年后 (a year later), 下个月 (next month), 一个星期以后 (in a week's time). These time phrases should always be placed at the beginning of the sentence or before the verbs they modify.

下个月, 我爷爷奶奶要来看我们。(Next month, my grandpa and grandma are coming to visit us.)



1.4 Extend the sentence 我参加奶奶的生日会 into four increasingly longer sentences by adding what is instructed in the brackets. Pay special attention to the word order. You may need to add the past marker 了 if it is about a past event. Before doing this exercise, you may need to read the Grammar Notes (below) on past tense. The first sentence has been done for you as an example.

GRAMMAR NOTES: PAST TENSE

There are two methods for talking about the past in Chinese. Completed actions are expressed by adding a past-time expression, such as 上个月, 昨天, at the head of the sentence or before the verb, and then the past-time aspect marker 了 placed after the action verb. For example:

昨天我参加了舞狮。/ 我昨天参加了舞狮。(Yesterday I took part in a lion dance.)

To express an action carried out over a period of time in the past, you only need to use a past time expression. There is no need to add the past-time aspect marker 了. For example:

两年前, 我喜欢舞狮。(Two years ago, I liked the lion dance.)

小的时候, 我和奶奶爷爷一起住。(I lived with my grandparents when I was little.)

1. (add a time expression in the past to the short sentence, e.g. 上个星期天)

上个星期天, 我参加了奶奶的生日会。

2. (add the person you did this activity with to 1 above, e.g. 我的爸爸妈妈)

3. (add how you feel/felt to 2 above, e.g. 高兴)

4. (explain why you feel/felt that way and introduce the sentence by using the correct connect word 因为 to 3 above)



1.5 Re-arrange the following words/expressions into sentences. The subject (first word) of each sentence is given.

EXAMPLE: 我妈妈 一个 医生 是

ANSWER: 我妈妈是一个医生。

1. 我妈妈 对人 友好 很

我妈妈

2. 爸爸 很 老师 是 一个 幽默的

爸爸

3. 小红 大 比我 三岁

小红

4. 你 怎么样 你哥哥 觉得

你

GRAMMAR NOTES: ASKING ABOUT OPINIONS

When asking for someone's opinion about something, a useful pattern to use is '觉得 + something/somebody 怎么样'. For example:

你觉得伦敦怎么样? (What do you think of London?)

Or you can make a statement or a suggestion first, and then ask for the other person's opinion:

我们给奶奶开一个生日会, 你觉得怎么样? (Let's have a birthday party for grandma. What do you think?)

1.6 Turn each of the following statements into a question regarding the underlined parts, using the question words provided in the brackets.

EXAMPLE: 小明昨天参加了朋友的生日会。(什么时候)

ANSWER: 小明什么时候参加了朋友的生日会?

1. 2005 年小红在英国出生。(哪儿) _____

2. 妈妈和爸爸下个月圣诞节去看奶奶。(什么时候) _____

3. 飞飞跟叔叔一起去游泳了。(谁) _____

4. 小红的生日是四月十号。(哪天) _____

2

Part Two Translation

Translate the following sentences into Chinese. Write in characters.

1. I hope I will learn to drive next year.

2. There are four people in my family: my parents, my elder sister and I.

3. When I was little, I loved football.

4. It will be my younger brother's 10th birthday next Saturday. We plan to give him a party at home.

5. I feel that my grandma looks very young.

6. My granddad's garden is big and beautiful.



TRANSLATION TIPS

If you do not know certain words, use words that are similar in meaning. For example, 'father's father' (爸爸的爸爸) for 'granddad'; 'not old' (不老) for 'young'; 'will' (要) for 'plan'.



3

Part Three Reading Comprehension

Matthew writes to his teacher Mrs Ma about his exchange visit to Beijing. Read the text and complete the two tasks that follow. Please note the underlined characters are either surnames, personal names or place names.

尊敬的马老师：

您好！

我来北京已经一个多星期了，我住在我的中国朋友李小山家。李小山的爸爸妈妈离婚了，他和妈妈一起住，他是独生子，没有兄弟姐妹。上个周末，他的爸爸来看我们，还和我们一起去吃北京烤鸭，北京烤鸭比英国的烤鸭好吃多了，晚上我们在国家大剧院看了京剧，我对京剧没有兴趣，因为我听不懂，音乐也太吵了。

我下个月回英国，我会在北京给家人和朋友们买很多礼物。

此致

敬礼！

马休

7月20日

NEW WORDS

尊敬

zūn jìng

dear; respected

兄弟姐妹

xiōng dì jiě mèi

brothers and sisters

北京烤鸭

Běi jīng kǎo yā

Peking duck

国家大剧院

guó jiā dà jù yuàn

National Centre for the Performing Arts

此致敬礼

cǐ zhì jìng lǐ

yours sincerely

3.1 Answer the following questions in English.

1. How long has Matthew been in Beijing?

2. Who does Matthew's Chinese friend, Li Xiaoshan, live with?

3. What does Matthew say about Peking duck?

4. Why is Matthew not interested in Peking Opera?

3.2 Make up sentences according to the given situation and use the provided structure in the brackets. Refer back to the letter in Part 3 to check how the phrases/structures are used.

1. Describe who you live with (和……一起)

2. Describe the age of one person in your family in comparison with another one (……比……多了)

3. Describe one member of your family who is not interested in an activity (对……没有兴趣)

4. Describe a gift someone in your family bought for you (给……买了……)



4 Part Four Exam Writing Practice

4.1 You have been introduced to a Chinese pen-friend, Xiaoming. Both of you already know each other's name. You want to write another email to Xiaoming and tell him more about yourself. Write approximately 80-110 characters in Chinese. In your email, you must refer to the following points.

- where you were born and grew up
- your age, what you do and your hobby
- what you did with one or a few of your family members last summer, and how you felt about it
- what you plan to do after secondary school

														15
														30
														45
														60
														75
														90
														105
														120

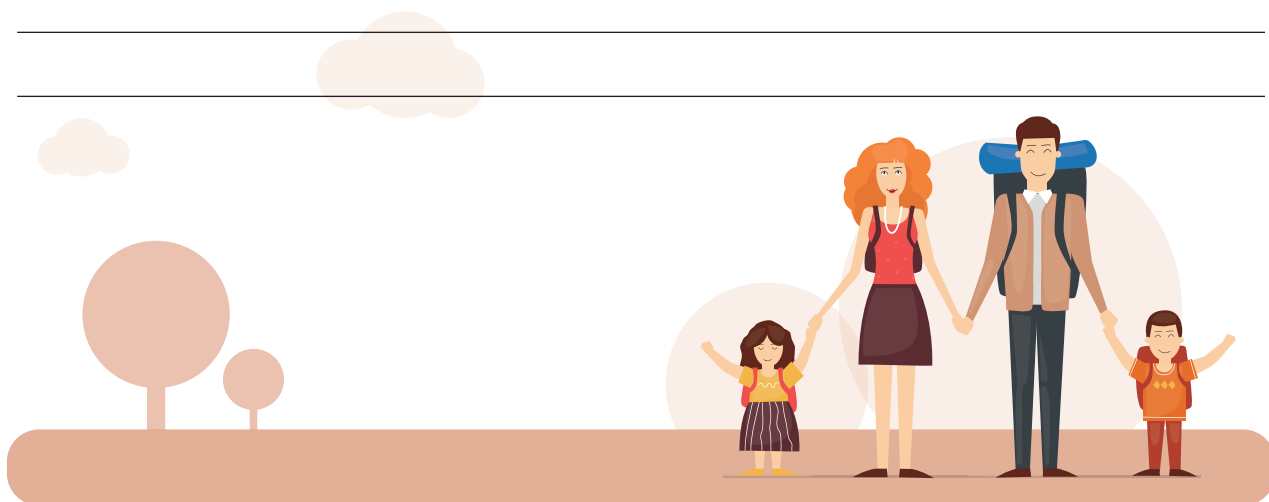




WRITING TIPS

- Remember this is an informal email so you need to address your friend casually and use his/her given name; you also need to greet him/her informally and sign it with an appropriate closing expression;
- Make sure that you cover all the points in the brief;
- When describing an event in the past or future, make sure that you use the time expression and/or the right particle that indicates the past;
- If you forget how to write a particular word, think of another way of saying the same thing. For example, if you want to say 'we visited ...' but you cannot remember the verb 'to visit', you can say 'we went to (somewhere) and saw (something).'

4.2 Read the sample answer to 4.1 in the Answers section at the end of the book. Add a few more sentences to the sample answer to make it longer. For example, you can say more about the member of your family you did this activity with last summer by using some adjectives to describe this person (e.g. 可爱、幽默), what he/she is or is not interested in (e.g. 对……有 / 没有兴趣) or a comparative structure (e.g. 比……多了); you can also use some other structures introduced in this unit to describe the city where you were born (e.g. 有……也有……; 又……又……). Insert the added sentences into appropriate places in the sample answer so that it is coherent.



5 Part Five Wrapping Up

5.1 Key structures covered in this unit



5.2 Key words and expressions covered in this unit

爱	ài	to love
爸爸	bà ba	dad
出生	chū shēng	to be born
聪明	cōng míng	clever; intelligent
弟弟	dì di	younger brother
独生子	dú shēng zǐ	only child
儿子	ér zi	son
父母	fù mǔ	parents
过生日	guò shēng rì	to celebrate a birthday
孩子	hái zi	child
家	jiā	family; home
家人	jiā rén	family (member)
结婚	jié hūn	to get married
可爱	kě ài	lovely; cute
离婚	lí hūn	to be divorced
礼物	lǐ wù	gift; present

妈妈	mā ma	mum
忙	máng	busy
美丽	měi lì	beautiful; pretty
妹妹	mèi mei	younger sister
奶奶	nǎi nai	grandmother
年轻	nián qīng	young
女儿	nǚ ér	daughter
朋友	péng you	friend
漂亮	piào liang	pretty
叔叔	shū shu	uncle
同学	tóng xué	schoolmate; classmate
爷爷	yé ye	grandfather
医生	yī shēng	doctor
幽默	yōu mò	humorous
友好	yǒu hǎo	friendly
有意思	yǒu yì si	interesting



Keys to the Exercises

练习题参考答案

CHAPTER ONE My Life and My Friends

Unit 1 My Family

Part One Warming Up

1.1 1.D 2.C 3.F 4.E 5.A 6.B 7.G

- 1.2 1. Family members: A 哥哥 C 爷爷 E 弟弟 H 姐姐 K 妹妹 L 奶奶
2. Profession: B 医生 I 老师
3. Things you do with family: D 开生日会 F 过春节 G 过圣诞 J 看朋友
-

1.3 1.D 2.A 3.B 4.C

1.4 Sample answer for reference only

1. 上个星期天我参加了奶奶的生日会。 / 我上个星期天参加了奶奶的生日会。
 2. 上个星期天我跟 / 和我的爸爸妈妈一起参加了奶奶的生日会。
 3. 上个星期天我跟我的爸爸妈妈一起参加了奶奶的生日会，我很高兴。
 4. 上个星期天我跟我的爸爸妈妈一起参加了奶奶的生日会，我很高兴，因为我见到了很多家人。
-

- 1.5
1. 我妈妈对人很友好。
 2. 爸爸是一个很幽默的老师。
 3. 小红比我大三岁。
 4. 你觉得你哥哥怎么样?
-

- 1.6
1. 2005 年小红在哪儿出生?
 2. 妈妈和爸爸什么时候去看奶奶? / 什么时候妈妈和爸爸去看奶奶?
 3. 飞飞跟谁一起去游泳了?
 4. 小红的生日是哪天? / 哪天是小红的生日?

Part Two Translation

Sample answer for reference only

1. 明年我希望学开车。 / 我希望明年学开车。
2. 我家有四口人：我的父母 / 爸爸、妈妈、姐姐和我。
3. 小的时候，我喜欢踢足球。
4. 下个星期六是我弟弟的十岁生日。我们打算在家给他开生日会。
5. 我觉得我奶奶看起来 (appear/look) 很年轻。
kòn qī lái
6. 我爷爷的花园又大又漂亮。

Part Three Reading Comprehension

- 3.1
1. Over a week
 2. His mum
 3. A lot nicer than British roast duck
 4. Because he doesn't understand and the music is too noisy

3.2 Sample answer for reference only

1. 我和我奶奶住在一起 / 一起住，因为我爸爸妈妈工作很忙。
2. 我弟弟比我小两岁，可是他比我高多了。
3. 我妈妈对足球没有兴趣。
4. 我姐姐给我买了一个我很想要的生日礼物。



Part Four Exam Writing Practice

4.1 Sample answer for reference only

小	明	:													15
		你	好	!											30
		我	在	北	京	出	生	,	也	在	北	京	长	大。	45
今	年	我	十	四	岁	,	是	一	个	中	学	生	。	我	60
的	爱	好	是	旅	行	。	去	年	夏	天	,	我	跟	姐	75
姐	一	起	去	了	英	国	伦	敦	,	我	们	参	观	了	90
大	英	博	物	馆	、	大	笨	钟	(Big Ben)	和	伦	敦	眼		105
(London Eye)															120
意	思	。	我	希	望	五	年	以	后	去	英	国	上	大	135
学	,	因	为	我	非	常	喜	欢	英	国	。				150
		祝	好	!											165
												爱	丽	丝	180

Comments

A full coverage is made of the required information. The student communicates very clearly about where she was born and grew up, her age and occupation, as well as her hobby. Her attempt at talking about her holiday in London, her opinion towards British history and her future plan of going to a UK university are all successful. She uses a variety of appropriate vocabulary such as 参观、喜欢、希望; and structures such as 跟...一起, 因为. Overall, the piece is highly accurate.

4.2 Sample answer for reference only

		我	在	北	京	出	生	,	也	在	北	京	长	大。	15
北	京	有	很	多	博	物	馆	,	也	有	很	多	美	术	30
馆	。	/	北	京	又	大	又	美	丽	。	今	年	我	十	45
四	岁	,	是	一	个	中	学	生	。	我	有	一	个	姐	60
姐	,	她	很	可	爱	/	幽	默	。	她	比	我	聪	明	75
多	了	。	我	的	爱	好	是	旅	游	。	我	姐	姐	对	90
旅	行	也	非	常	有	兴	趣	。	去	年	夏	天	,	我	105
跟	姐	姐	一	起	去	了	英	国	伦	敦	,	我	们	参	120
观	了	大	英	博	物	馆	、	大	笨	钟	和	伦	敦	眼	135
我	觉	得	英	国	的	历	史	有	意	思	极	了	。	我	150
希	望	五	年	以	后	去	英	国	上	大	学	,	因	为	165
我	非	常	喜	欢	英	国	。								180

Unit 2 My Hobbies

Part One Warming Up

1.1 1.H 2.E 3.F 4.C 5.B 6.I 7.D 8.A 9.G

1.2 1.C 2.D 3.A 4.B 5.F 6.G 7.H 8.E



GCSE CHINESE

WRITING REVISION GUIDE

This book is written by three academics experienced in teaching Chinese as a foreign language from The Open University, Benenden School and Tsinghua University.

It is a complete and up-to-date revision guide based on the 2017 revised syllabus, covering all the topics in the new Edexcel and AQA Chinese GCSE (9-1) specification.

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