



## Chinese A2 – Higher Level

The Chinese A2 courses are designed for students with a high level of competence, and can be studied at either higher level or standard level. Chinese A2 courses are based on the study of both language and literature. The main focus of these courses is on the reinforcement and refinement of language skills, as distinct from language acquisition. Students will also be given the opportunity to explore the Chinese culture, and to make connections between other languages and cultures with which they are familiar. At the end of these courses they are expected to use the language for purposes and in situations involving sophisticated discussion, argument and debate.

### Subject Areas

In Chinese A2 courses, language texts and culture are explored through the framework of cultural and literary options. At higher level students study four options: at least one must be literary, and at least one cultural. One of the cultural options must be either language and culture, or media and culture.

#### 1) Cultural Options:

1. **Language and culture** - biculturalism, colonialism, gender, social class, nationalism, etc.
2. **Media and culture** - advertising, film, the press, censorship, radio and television, etc.
3. **Future issues** - alternative energy sources, global warming, genetic engineering, etc.
4. **Global issues** - drugs, health issues, racism, poverty, famine, prejudice, human rights, etc.
5. **Social issues** - discrimination, violence, family, education, employment, stereotypes, etc.

#### 2) Literary Options:

The Study of literature in the Chinese A2 course includes an examination of language, form and content in literary works and aims to increase students' awareness of the cultural specificity of works as well the elements that make them universal. Each literary option consists of the study of three works chosen by teacher, as long as they are of literary quality.

### Assessment

<b>Internal Assessments</b>	Oral Component	30%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual oral – text on culture or literary</li> <li>• Interactive oral activity – chosen from the topic not used in the individual oral either culture or literary</li> </ul>	

The individual oral is to engage students on a critical examination of a particular text or extract that has been seen or studied in class. Each student will be given a copy of the text without any annotations or notes before the test. Then they will be given 20 minutes as preparation time. They need to consider all aspects of the text and to organize the structure of their commentary/analysis during the 20 minutes. The length of the individual oral will be 15 minutes maximum.

<b>External</b>	<b>Paper 1</b>	Comparative	2 hrs – two pairs of unseen texts – students write on one of the pairs of texts	25%
	<b>Paper 2</b>	Essay	2 hrs - ten essay questions (students select one)	25%
	<b>Paper 3</b>	Written tasks	Two written tasks (combined max. of 1500 words)	20%