

8. Year 11 Subjects 2011 (Languages)

VCE Chinese As A First Language Units 1 & 2

General:

The study of a language other than English contributes to the overall education of students, most particularly in the area of communication, but also in the areas of cross-cultural understanding, cognitive development, literacy and general knowledge. It provides access to the cultures of communities which use the language and promotes understanding of different attitudes and values within the wider Australian community and beyond.

The study of Chinese develops students' ability to understand and use a language which is spoken by about a quarter of the world's population. It is the major language of communication in China and Singapore, and is widely used by Chinese communities throughout the Asia-Pacific region, including Australia.

Studying Chinese can provide a basis for continued learning and a pathway for students into a number of post-secondary options. A knowledge of Chinese can provide students with enhanced vocational opportunities in many fields, including banking and international finance, commerce, diplomacy, and translating and interpreting.

The aims of the study design are to develop students':

- ability to use Chinese to communicate with others;
- understanding and appreciation of their own and other cultures;
- understanding of language as a system;
- potential to apply Chinese to work, further study, training or leisure.

Areas of Study (all Units):

The areas of study for Chinese First Language comprise themes and topics, text types, kinds of writing, vocabulary and grammar. They are common to all four units of the study, and are designed to be drawn upon in an integrated way, as appropriate to the linguistic needs of the student, and the outcomes for the unit.

The themes and topics are the vehicle through which the student will demonstrate achievement of the outcomes, in the sense that they form the subject of the activities and tasks the student undertakes.

The text types, kinds of writing, vocabulary and grammar are linked, both to each other, and to the themes and topics. Together, as common areas of study, they add a further layer of definition to the knowledge and skills required for successful achievement of the outcomes.

The common areas of study provide the opportunity for the student to build upon what is familiar, as well as develop knowledge and skills in new and more challenging areas.

There are three prescribed themes:

- Self and others
- Tradition and change in the Chinese-speaking communities
- Global issues

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VCE Chinese As A First Language Units 1 & 2 (Cont...)

Unit 1

Assessment:

Unit 1 consists of 3 outcomes:

- Outcome 1 - Students should be able to establish and maintain a spoken or written exchange related to an issue of interest or concern.
- Outcome 2 - Students should be able to listen to, read and reorganise information and ideas from spoken and written texts.
- Outcome 3 - Students should be able to produce a personal response to a fictional text.

Assessment Break-Down:

A total of four tasks will be selected from those listed below. This list is provided as a guide only:

- *Outcome 1:*
 - discussion
 - OR
 - personal letter/fax/email.
- *Outcome 2:*
 - listen to a spoken text (e.g. discussion, interview, broadcast) and extract and use information and ideas in a different text type
 - AND
 - read a written text (e.g. article, report, letter) and extract and use information and ideas in a different text type.
- *Outcome 3:*
 - oral presentation or review or article.

There is an End-of-Semester Examination.

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VCE Chinese As A First Language Units 1 & 2 (Cont...)

Unit 2

Assessment:

Unit 2 consists of 3 outcomes:

- Outcome 1 - Students should be able to participate in a spoken or written exchange focusing on the resolution of an issue.
- Outcome 2 - Students should be able to listen to, read, and extract and compare information and ideas from spoken and written texts.
- Outcome 3 - Students should be able to produce an imaginative piece in spoken or written form.

Assessment Break-Down:

A total of four tasks may be selected from those listed below. The list (below) should be taken as a guide only.

- *Outcome 1:*
 - formal letter, or fax, or email or role play
- *Outcome 2:*
 - listen to two or more spoken texts (e.g. interview, discussion, debate) and compare information and ideas obtained in a given format in Chinese

AND

 - read two or more written texts (e.g. letters, articles, reports) and compare information and ideas obtained in a given format in Chinese.
- *Outcome 3:*
 - journal entry OR spoken personal account OR short story.

There is an End-of-Semester Examination.