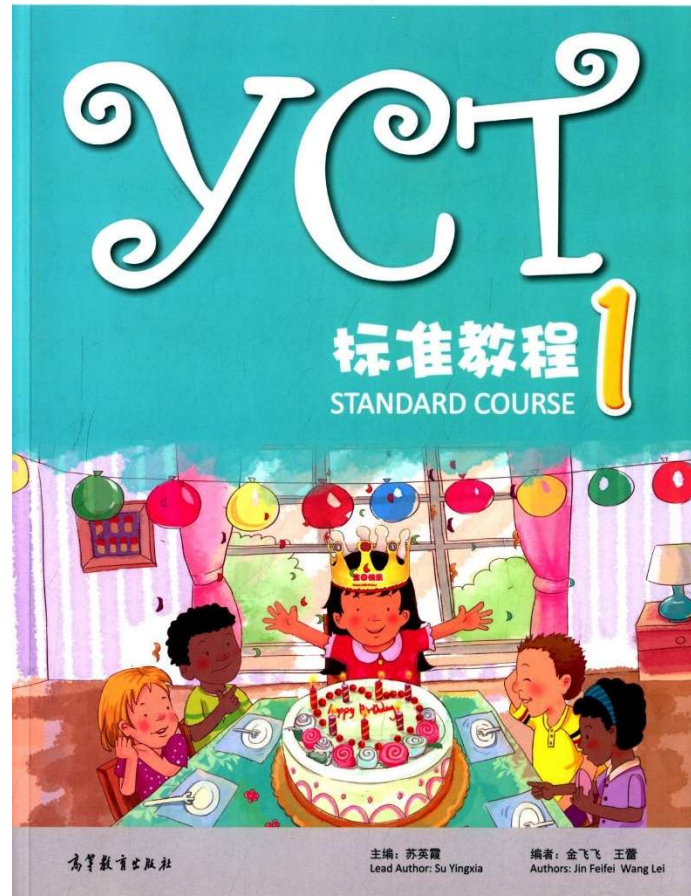## What is HSK?

Hànyǔ Shuǐpíng Kǎoshì (HSK) is China's official Chinese language proficiency test for non-native speakers. Designed by Chinese Testing International, HSK is a standardized exam to measure the test taker's Chinese language proficiency. It assesses non-native Chinese speakers' abilities in using the Chinese language in their daily, academic and professional lives. Today, the test is administered worldwide with over 1,147 HSK exam centers in 137 countries and regions.

What is HSKK?

HSK Speaking Test (HSKK) assesses the test takers' oral Chinese abilities. HSKK consists of three levels, HSKK (Primary level), HSKK (Intermediate level) and HSKK (Advanced level). HSKK is conducted in the form of audio recording.

What is YCT?

Youth Chinese Test (YCT, zhōng xiǎo xué Hànyǔ Shuǐpíng Kǎoshì), is an international standardized test of Chinese language proficiency. This test assesses the primary and middle school students' abilities to use Chinese as second language in their daily and academic lives. YCT is divided into writing and speaking tests, which are independent to each other. The writing test consists of four levels, namely, YCT (level I), YCT (level II), YCT (level III), and YCT (level IV). The speaking test consists of two levels, YCT Speaking (Primary Level) and YCT Speaking (Intermediate Level).

Certification

The HSK and YCT exist to certify that non-native Chinese speakers are qualified to communicate in Chinese at the level required for school and daily interactions in China. Educational institutions and businesses often require proof of language proficiency for non-natives.

HSK and YCT certification is granted based on the level of testing taken, and passing grades may provide exemption from Chinese language courses.

The HSK and YCT certificates are valid for life. However, for students applying to Chinese colleges or universities, the score report is only valid for two years.

Resources

Please visit the **Download Center** to download test guidelines and sample tests.