

國立清華大學外國語文學系
114 學年度申請入學第二階段指定項目甄試
英文讀寫能力測驗試題

Read the following two passages and complete the writing tasks in your own words. You are encouraged to draw on your knowledge of the topics and your personal experiences. This test is 100-minute long.

PASSAGE A

Traditionally, departments of foreign languages and literature in Taiwan emphasize the mastery of human languages—languages that convey culture, literature, and human expression. Students are expected not only to achieve fluency in English but also to study a second or even third language, such as French and Japanese. This linguistic training is rooted in the belief that knowing multiple languages opens doors to cultural understanding, critical thinking, and enhanced communication skills. Courses typically include grammar, translation, linguistics, literature, and interpretation, all designed to deepen students' appreciation of languages in human society.

In recent years, the role of digital technology has grown significantly in the field of language studies. Programming, once considered the domain of computer science, has begun to find a place in linguistic research and literary analysis. For example, language databases can be processed more efficiently through scripts, and mining texts from big data can reveal trends across entire genres or historical periods. Programming also supports the development of language learning software, interactive dictionaries, and tools for translation studies. As more research and communication shift to digital formats, students equipped with even basic programming skills gain access to a broader range of methodologies and career paths, including computational linguistics, localization, and digital publishing.

This is why programming languages, particularly Python, should also be considered as a second language for students majoring in foreign languages and literature. Python, known for its readability and simplicity, shares certain parallels with natural language. The organization of its codes is intuitive, and many of its functions and structures mimic the logical operations found in human communication. For instance, just as language learners understand sentence structure, programmers learn to construct conditional statements and loops. Moreover, Python can be used for natural language processing (NLP), enabling students to analyze large texts, build chatbots, or explore stylistic patterns in literature. Treating Python as a “language” fosters a linguistic mindset in programming, making it more accessible to language students. It also reframes programming as a communicative act—not just with machines, but through machines, to extend the range of human language processing.

In conclusion, while programming languages are not natural languages, they serve as a similarly vital communicative function in the modern era. For students of foreign languages and literature, learning Python should not be viewed as a departure from their training, but rather as a natural extension of it. Just as Latin once served as a lingua franca of intellectuals, Python is becoming a shared language in today's academic and professional worlds. Therefore, it deserves recognition not merely as a technical skill, but as a legitimate second language within the curriculum. In embracing programming, students do not abandon their roots in humanistic inquiry—they expand them.

● **Writing Tasks (50%)**

- 1. Based on the main points of the article, please give the article a title in English (15 words maximum). The title should be a statement, rather than a question. (5%)**
- 2. In two to three sentences in your own words, summarize the reasons why a programming language, especially Python, should be considered a second language in a department of foreign languages and literature. (10%)**
- 3. Do you agree with the statements in the article? Write an essay (rather than list individual points) in no more than 300 words to express your opinions. In your essay, you need to clearly explain which statement in the article that you agree or disagree with and why. It is also acceptable to agree with some of the statements and disagree with others. (35%)**

PASSAGE B

Alexis Ohanian predicted that in a future oversaturated with artificial intelligence, people will seek out more raw, emotive human experiences.

And in 10 years, he said, live theater will be more popular than ever.

The 41-year-old, who co-founded social media platform Reddit in 2005, told the "On Purpose with Jay Shetty" podcast this week that AI will soon have an undeniable impact on nearly every aspect of society, including the entertainment sector.

Ohanian, who also founded venture capital firm Seven Seven Six in 2020, said that the industry will see a big shift when AI makes on-screen entertainment better, faster, cheaper, and more dynamic — which he said is happening.

Every screen we look at will become so programmed to show us "what we want, when we want it, how we want it," he said, that "a part of our humanity will miss, you know, thousands of years ago when we were sitting around a campfire and that great storyteller was doing the voices and the impressions."

"That's ingrained in our species," he said.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/technology/artificial-intelligence/reddit-cofounder-alexis-ohanian-predicts-live-theater-and-sports-will-become-more-popular-than-ever-as-ai-grows/ar-AA1weQWg?ocid=BingNewsVerp>

● **Writing Tasks (50%)**

- 1. In your opinion, what aspect of human nature is described as “ingrained in our species” in the article? Discuss the author’s reasoning and explain why you agree or disagree. Your response should be 250–300 words in length. (30%)**
- 2. Share a personal experience that compares or contrasts your interactions with human beings versus AI, as explored in the article. You may take a different perspective from the author. For example, you might enjoy talking to AI more than to a human friend, or you may feel a sense of alienation when traveling abroad with limited local interaction—while others might appreciate the novelty of AI-assisted experiences. How does your experience resonate with or contradict the article’s view? (20%)**