

National unit specification: general information

UNIT English: Language Study (Advanced Higher)

NUMBER D8VH 13

COURSE English (Advanced Higher)

SUMMARY

The English: Language Study unit is concerned principally with developing the skills of linguistic analysis through the study of a range of contemporary or historical forms of English or Scots as used by different people for different purposes. Candidates will study a substantial number and variety of aspects of English or Scots related to topics specified by SQA.

The content of the unit comprises:

- knowledge of the various ways by which meaning is communicated in Modern English or in Scots: phonology, spelling, vocabulary/lexis, grammatical structures, semantics
- understanding of the concepts and approaches required for linguistic analysis.

What distinguishes the study of English or Scottish language at Advanced Higher level from that at Higher is the greater range of contexts and concepts studied, the greater depth to which these are studied and the greater emphasis on comparison, contrast and generalisation.

OUTCOME

Describe and analyse key aspects of English or Scottish language.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained:

- a Higher course award in English.

Administrative Information

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT English: Language Study (Advanced Higher)

CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Advanced Higher.

CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of core skills or core skills components in this unit.

Additional information about core skills is published in the *Catalogue of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 2001).

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT English: Language Study (Advanced Higher)

OUTCOME

Describe and analyse key aspects of English or Scottish language.

Performance criteria

Understanding

The response takes a relevant and thoughtful approach to the prescribed task and demonstrates secure understanding of key elements of language study.

Analysis

The response makes relevant and thoughtful analytical comment and demonstrates secure handling of linguistic concepts, forms, usages.

Evaluation

Judgements made are relevant, thoughtful and securely based on detailed evidence drawn from a range of sources and contexts.

Expression

Structure, style and language, including the use of appropriate analytical terminology, are consistently accurate and effective in developing a relevant argument.

Evidence requirements

Candidates must produce one essay/analytical report.

The essay/analytical report must involve analysis of text.

The essay/analytical report must be written:

- without assistance
- under supervision
- within the centre
- in response to an unseen question
- on a language topic selected from the list of language topics specified by SQA.

Candidates must:

- have access to relevant text(s) during the writing of the essay/analytical report
- meet all of the performance criteria in the essay/analytical report.

Authors, texts and topics that are the subject of teaching, study or assessment in other units of the English course or in the units of other courses must not be used for assessment purposes in this unit.

