

2005 Gaelic (Learners)

Standard Grade – General/Credit Writing

Finalised Marking Instructions

These Marking Instructions have been prepared by Examination Teams for use by SQA Appointed Markers when marking External Course Assessments.

2005 Gaelic (Learners) Standard Grade Writing

In allocating a grade, the criteria below should be referred to along with the Extended Grade Criteria overleaf. A candidate who is operating at Credit level will competently integrate almost all the criteria listed. At General level, there will be some omissions inaccuracies and difficulties in integrating the criteria.

Section A

(1) The paragraph includes:

- name
- age
- where the person lives
- likes and dislikes
- hobbies enjoyed
- any other information that the candidate may have added.

OR

(2) The postcard includes:

- a suitable beginning
- the name and address of recipient
- the date
- a short description of happenings
- a comment on the weather
- any other information that the candidate may have added.

Section B

(1) The letter may include:

- address
- date
- a suitable beginning and ending
- personal details eg age, appearance
- family details
- happenings at school
- details of hobbies and pastimes
- events attended
- details of friends
- a comment on weather
- a description of where person lives
- any other information that the candidate may have added.

OR

(2) The account of the holiday may include:

- destination
- accompanying friends/family
- travel arrangements
- involvement in activities, for example, sports, drama, trips, shopping
- details of meals
- details of new friends
- details of gifts and items bought
- a comment on the weather
- any other information.

Candidates' work will be assessed by referring to the extended Grade Related Criteria for Writing. Candidates will be awarded a composite grade reflecting the standard of their performance in the **two** questions attempted.

The extended Grade Related Criteria for Writing are:

General Level
(grades 4, 3)

Credit Level
(grades 2, 1)

Purpose of Communication

The candidate can respond to given stimuli, convey and seek specific information and express feelings and opinions.

The candidate can respond to given stimuli, convey and seek information, express feelings and opinions, describe a personal or vicarious experience and common activities and events.

Nature of Communication

With time for preparation, the candidate can communicate intelligibly, showing some evidence of accuracy in spelling, grammar and sentence construction.

With time for preparation, the candidate can convey meaning clearly at first reading. Work shows accuracy in spelling, grammar and sentence construction, a range of vocabulary and some appropriate use of idiom.

Work in the main consists of sentences and short sequences of sentences which may contain subordinate clauses and modification devices such as adjectives and adverbs.

Extended work is produced, eg reports, reviews, letters and transcripts of dialogues or interviews.

The above aspects on the previous page can be tabulated for ease of application, as follows:

Intelligibility		Intelligible			Meaning clear at 1st reading			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	
Spelling		Some accuracy			Mainly accurate			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	
Grammar		Some accuracy			Mainly accurate			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	
Sentence construction		Some accuracy			Accuracy			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	
Vocabulary		No specification			A range			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	
Idiom		No specification			Some appropriate use			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	
Command of language		Mainly short sentences			Short and detailed sentences			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	
Standard		Satisfactory – high/medium			Satisfactory – high			
	General level 4		General Level 3		Credit level 2		Credit level 1	

Each candidate's work is assessed on its own merits, based on the above aspects, in relation to the purpose of communication appropriate to the stimuli. In deciding which of the two grades to award within each Level, consideration is given to whether, in meeting the stated criteria for a particular Level, the candidate

has demonstrated a high standard of performance, or
has demonstrated a lower standard of performance but nevertheless meets the criteria

The questions presented in Section A require a short, succinct piece, but one which includes all relevant information. By contrast, Section B requires a piece of extended writing.

If candidate does not merit grade 4 or better, enter the code 444 (instead of grade) on the script and on Form Ex6.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]