

Modern Languages



This update focuses on the development of Advanced Higher, with information relevant to your subject and details of the support available to you.

Updates regarding National 3 to National 5 and Higher can be found in the 'Updates and Announcements' section of the relevant **subject pages**. I would encourage you to make regular use of our subject pages, where you will find support documents, answers to common questions, and links to other areas of interest. You can also sign up for 'My Alerts', SQA's e-mail update service, that notifies you whenever content you are interested in is added or updated on SQA's website. Visit **www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts** to register.

I hope you find the following update helpful, and please contact me if you have any questions.

Lee-Anne Murray
Qualifications Development Manager

The Qualifications Development team

Lee-Anne Murray
Qualifications Development Manager

Carolyn O'Reilly
Qualifications Development Officer

Assessment support

Package 1 of Unit assessment support for Advanced Higher is available now from SQA's secure website. You can arrange access to secure materials through your SQA Co-ordinator; these must be stored securely and treated as confidential.

Over the coming year, we will publish the following assessment support materials for Advanced Higher Courses:

January 2015	Course Comparison document Guidance on the use of past papers
February 2015	Specimen Question Paper(s) and Marking Instructions Unit assessment support package 2
March 2015	Coursework information
April 2015	Unit assessment support package 3
December 2015	Exemplar Question Paper(s) and Marking Instructions

Updates to documents

We will make planned updates to the Advanced Higher documents, following the publication of Advanced Higher Specimen Question Papers, coursework information and Unit assessment support packs. We will also finalise package 1 of Unit assessment support, following the publication of packages 2 and 3.

The schedule for publishing the updated documents is as follows:

April 2015	Mandatory documents (Unit Specifications, Course Specifications and Course Assessment Specifications)
May 2015	Advice and guidance documents (Course and Unit Support Notes) and Unit assessment support packs

These updates are to ensure consistency between the assessment support materials, advice and guidance documents and the documents containing mandatory information. The Notification of Changes spreadsheet will be updated for Advanced Higher following the publication of any revised documents.

Planned changes to Advanced Higher Modern Languages documents:

Course Specification and Course and Unit Support Notes

These will be updated to ensure consistency with all other documents.

Course Assessment Specification

Following publication of Specimen Question Papers and Coursework, this will be updated to provide final details on the structure and coverage of the four Course assessment Components: question paper 1 (Reading and Translation), question paper 2 (Listening and Discursive Writing), performance and portfolio.

Unit Specifications

Unit titles and content have been restructured since publication to reflect the hierarchy from National 3 to Higher and are now as follows: *Understanding Language*, *Using Language* and *Specialist Study*. Assessment Standards for *Understanding Language* and *Using Language* will align with the hierarchy from National 3 to Higher. Assessment Standards for the *Specialist Study* Unit will correspond to the process of researching literature, media or language in work.

The revised Unit titles and Assessment Standards will be reflected in the Unit assessment support packs by the end of April 2015.

It is important that staff delivering the new Advanced Higher Courses in session 2015-16 read the full suite of documents for their subjects, as well as those relating to assessment. We also advise staff attending the Advanced Higher support events to read these documents in preparation.

For more information on documents and assessment support materials, visit www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments

Support and guidance

Unit assessment support packages 2 and 3 will exemplify combined and Unit-by-Unit approaches to assessment and gathering evidence.

The Unit assessment support packs give examples of how to generate evidence and make assessment judgements for the Outcomes and Assessment Standards of the Units of the Course.

Looking ahead to 2015–16

The new Advanced Higher Courses go live from August 2015. SQA will continue to work closely with centres throughout the implementation of these Courses to ensure you have the support you need to prepare your learners for assessment.

We will also work closely with centres during the verification process to identify exemplar materials for Advanced Higher that can be shared with you, to help enhance your understanding of the standards required.

A series of implementation events for Advanced Higher Modern Languages will take place on the following dates:

- Friday 20 February (Glasgow)
- Monday 23 February (Stirling)
- Wednesday 25 February (Edinburgh)
- Friday 27 February (Aberdeen)

If you wish to attend this event, please follow this [link](#).

Contact SQA

For centre enquiries, please contact our Business Development and Customer Support Team on:

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