



Gàidhlig (National 5)

Draft National Course Assessment Specification



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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Assessment Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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Course outline

Course title:	Gàidhlig (National 5)
SCQF level:	5 (24 SCQF credit points)
Course code:	to be advised
Course assessment code:	to be advised

The purpose of the Course Assessment Specification is to ensure consistent and transparent assessment year on year. It describes the structure of the Course assessment and the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed.

Course assessment structure

Component 1 — question paper: reading and writing	50 marks
Component 2 — question paper: listening	20 marks
Component 3 — performance: talking	30 marks
Total marks	100 marks

This Course includes six SCQF credit points for 40 additional programmed hours to allow preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course.

Equality and inclusion

This Course Assessment Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to assessment. Assessments have been designed to promote equal opportunities while maintaining the integrity of the qualification.

For guidance on assessment arrangements for disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs, please follow the link to the Assessment Arrangements web page: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14977.html.

Guidance on inclusive approaches to delivery and assessment of this Course will be provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all the Units as well as the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

Course assessment

SQA will produce and give instructions for the production and conduct of Course assessments based on the information provided in this document.

Added value

The purpose of the Course assessment is to assess added value of the Course as well as confirming attainment in the Course and providing a grade. The added value for the Course will address the key purposes and aims of the Course as defined in the Course Rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge, or application.

In this Course assessment, added value will focus on the following:

- ◆ challenge — requiring greater depth or extension of knowledge and/or skills
- ◆ application — requiring application of knowledge and/or skills in practical or theoretical contexts as appropriate

This added value consists of:

- ◆ the ability to understand, analyse and evaluate an unseen text
- ◆ the ability to apply language skills to chosen tasks

Grading

Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

The Course assessment is graded A–D. The grade is determined on the basis of the total mark for all Course assessments together.

A learner's overall grade will be determined by their performance across the Course assessment.

Grade description for C

For the award of Grade C, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated successful performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen, effective contributor

Grade description for A

For the award of Grade A, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated a consistently high level of performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

Credit

To take account of the extended range of learning and teaching approaches, remediation, consolidation of learning and integration needed for preparation for external assessment, six SCQF credit points are available in Courses at National 5 and Higher, and eight SCQF credit points in Courses at Advanced Higher. These points will be awarded when a grade D or better is achieved.

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Structure and coverage of the Course assessment

The Course assessment will consist of three Components: a question paper titled 'Reading and Writing', a question paper titled 'Listening', and a performance titled 'Talking'. The question paper 'Reading and Writing' will have two Sections. The question paper 'Listening' will have one Section. The performance 'Talking' will have one Section.

Component 1 — question paper (reading and writing)

The purpose of this question paper is to assess learners' application of their reading and writing skills in the contexts of culture and heritage and to provide the challenge of questions and other tasks to be accomplished in a limited amount of time.

This question paper will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ apply reading skills in the understanding, analysis and evaluation of a written Gàidhlig text
- ◆ apply critical reading skills
- ◆ apply knowledge and understanding of appropriate literary context, forms, genres and culture

This question paper will have 50 marks (50% of the total mark).

This question paper has two Sections.

Section 1, titled 'Reading for Analysis and Evaluation', will have 30 marks (30% of the total mark).

Marks will be awarded for applying reading skills in understanding, analysis and evaluation to one unseen text. Assessment will involve answering questions to show these reading skills, and completing a task that involves inference making and summarising. The text will be either fiction or non-fiction.

Section 2, titled 'Critical Reading and Writing', will have 20 marks (20% of the total mark).

Marks will be awarded for applying critical reading and writing skills and knowledge in producing one critical essay, on a topic drawn from study of the following, which address aspects of Gàidhlig heritage and contemporary culture: drama, prose, poetry, film and TV drama, or language.

Component 2 — question paper (listening)

The purpose of this question paper is to assess learners' application of their listening skills in the contexts of Gàidhlig heritage and contemporary culture.

This question paper will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ apply listening skills to understand, analyse and evaluate a spoken Gàidhlig text

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The question paper will have 20 marks (20% of the total mark).

This question paper has one Section.

Marks will be awarded to learners for addressing the challenge of applying their listening skills in understanding, analysis and evaluation to a previously unheard text of spoken Gàidhlig. The text will be non-fiction.

Component 3 — performance (talking)

The purpose of this performance is to provide evidence of the learner's talking skills in Gàidhlig.

This performance will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ apply their talking skills in a presentation to a real audience
- ◆ apply their knowledge of Gàidhlig language, literature and contemporary culture in a presentation

This performance will have 30 marks (30% of the total mark).

This performance has one Section.

Learners will prepare a presentation of at least three minutes on an aspect of Gàidhlig culture and heritage. Learners will present information using their talking skills.

Approximately 20% of the marks will be awarded for language use. Another 5% of the marks will be awarded for appropriate content and structure. Another 5% of the marks will be awarded for presentation skills.

Setting, conducting and marking of assessment

Question paper — reading and writing

This question paper will be set and marked by SQA, and conducted in centres under conditions specified for external examinations by SQA. Learners will complete this in 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Question paper — listening

This question paper will be set and marked by SQA, and conducted in centres under conditions specified for external examinations by SQA. Learners will complete this in 20 minutes.

Controlled assessment — performance (talking)

This performance is:

- ◆ set by centres within SQA guidelines
- ◆ conducted under a high degree of supervision and control

Evidence will be internally marked by centre staff in line with SQA marking instructions.

All marking will be quality assured by SQA.

Learners will complete this performance in at least three minutes.

Further mandatory information on Course coverage

The following gives details of mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Gàidhlig (National 5) Course. Course assessment will involve sampling the skills, knowledge and understanding. This list of skills, knowledge and understanding also provides the basis for the assessment of Units of the Course.

Knowledge of language

- ◆ the distinction between connotative and denotative uses of language
- ◆ the ways in which, over time, language changes in vocabulary, pronunciation and structure
- ◆ the names and uses of the main word classes — noun, pronoun, adjective, article, verb, adverb, preposition and conjunction
- ◆ the names and uses of the basic syntactic Units — sentence, clause, phrase/group
- ◆ the more commonly used conventions of written language
- ◆ a critical terminology for discussing prose, poetry and drama with regard to genres and conventions and to the more commonly used rhetorical and poetic devices and metrical patterns
- ◆ a critical terminology for discussing film and TV drama and other products of the mass media
- ◆ an understanding of what facilitates/prevents effective communication

Command of:

- ◆ skills of inference making and summarising
- ◆ knowledge of literary forms and genres, including aspects of culture and heritage
- ◆ knowledge of Gaelic heritage and contemporary culture, including the historic Gaelic world, Gaelic language issues, the contemporary Gaelic world, the social or historical context of a piece of literature or literary theme, and Gaelic in a national/international context; Gaelic orthographic conventions
- ◆ knowledge of literary and media techniques and devices, including: characterisation; use of dialogue, structure, word choice, tone; narrative stance; mood; creation of a sense of place; conventions of genre, syntax, layout

Administrative information

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Superclass: to be advised

History of changes

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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