Draft National Unit Specification

Unit title: Modern Languages: Understanding and Using Language (Advanced Higher)

SCQF: level 7 (16 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: to be advised

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop their understanding of cultural and topical issues in the relevant country/countries in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture. Learners develop the skills needed to understand and use a modern language in a wide range of contexts by further developing their listening, talking and reading skills, as well as having opportunities to compare and contrast issues and to increase their language proficiency.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

1 Use complex spoken language
2 Understand complex written language
3 Understand complex spoken language

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Advanced Higher Modern Languages Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in the *National Assessment Resource*.

The *Course Assessment Specification* for the Advanced Higher Modern Languages Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the Advanced Higher Modern Languages Course.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- Higher Modern Languages Course

Equality and inclusion

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information, please refer to the *Unit Support Notes.*

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Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

1 Use complex spoken language by:

1.1 Using relevant ideas and content
1.2 Sustaining discussion, using a range of vocabulary, variety of structures and flexibility of expression
1.3 Conveying meaning and communicating facts and opinions to a speaker of the modern language with clarity and accuracy
1.4 Applying grammatical knowledge

Outcome 2

The learner will:

2 Understand complex written language by:

2.1 Identifying and explaining overall purpose and main points
2.2 Identifying and explaining specific detail
2.3 Identifying and explaining attitudes/opinions expressed or implied
2.4 Applying knowledge and understanding of the modern language

Outcome 3

The learner will:

3 Understand complex spoken language by:

3.1 Identifying and explaining overall purpose and main points
3.2 Identifying and explaining specific detail
3.3 Applying knowledge and understanding of the modern language

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

For this Unit, learners will be required to provide evidence of their talking, reading and listening skills by:

- using complex and accurate spoken language in at least one conversation
- showing understanding of at least one complex written text
- showing understanding of at least one complex spoken text

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Assessment generated for this Unit must come from one of the following contexts: society, learning, employability, or culture.

Exemplification of assessment is provided in the *National Assessment Resource*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes.*

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Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

1 Literacy
1.2 Writing

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship
4.6 Citizenship

5 Thinking skills
5.3 Applying
5.4 Analysing and evaluating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work.* The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level as the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes.*

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Administrative information

Published: October 2012 (draft version 1.0)

Superclass: to be advised

History of changes

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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Note: readers are advised to check SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the Unit Specification.

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