SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

Moderation Feedback

Assessment Panel:	**English and Communication**

Qualification area

Subject(s) and Level(s) included in this report	**NQ English and Communication** **English Standard Grade**

Feedback to centres

Moderation of Standard Grade Talking indicated, in most centres, a high level of familiarity with the application of the GRC. The moderation exercise is SQA's means of transmitting the national standards to which the GRC relate, and will, occasionally, call for some adjustment in individual thinking to ensure consistency. Teachers will recognise that the moderator's role as trainer is best served by the selection of taped items which highlight different aspects of assessment, and which often represent performances at the intersections of gradings.

Over the years since the first full implementation of Standard Grade, some videotapes with commentaries have been made available to centres. These were tapes used in moderation, and are the best means for departments to achieve familiarisation with national standards. Departments should make regular use of the training tapes in their own standardisation procedures.

In Visiting Moderation for English and Communication, moderators commented on the positive and courteous conduct of sessions in centres. For the third year in succession, all centres visited were "accepted", meaning that all were assessing in accordance with national standards.

Many departments had in place procedures for joint and team marking. In many centres, internal moderators had a crucial role in the standardisation of marking. In some, the internal moderator was the sole assessor – a practice certain to aid consistency. Departments will have their own views as to whether they should be entirely reliant on one assessor. Ideally, the internal moderator's responsibility will be the transmission of national standards to all those teaching the course.