

National Qualifications 2006

Senior Moderator Report

Subject: Gàidhlig and Gaelic (Learners)

Assessment Panel: Gaelic

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on moderation which has taken place within National Qualifications in this subject.

STANDARD GRADE

ELEMENT / COURSEWORK MODERATED

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Two centres were visited for Standard Grade Moderation. Grades covered in test observed were 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Generally, candidates were well prepared to undertake the tests and gave a good performance at their level, and were able to engage in meaningful dialogue, using appropriate vocabulary and idiom. No specific difficulties were encouraged during the moderation exercise, and, where appropriate, teachers agreed to amend grading as advised; amendments, however, were minimal.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Good practice was evident in both centres, and SQA guidelines were upheld. Grading was consistently satisfactory.

NATIONAL UNITS

TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS MODERATED

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Candidate's performances from a total of 8 Centres were moderated, 5 of which were accepted and 3 of which were not accepted.

Accepted – These Centres had conducted the tests in accordance with SQA guidelines. In some instances, the exercise was considered to be too long, but Moderators managed to arrive at a consensus within the tolerance range of 3 marks. Candidates were well prepared, and generally tests were well conducted. During dialogue, some questions were quite demanding, but candidates coped well.

Not Accepted – Marks did not reflect the criteria as set out in the guidelines, "Assessment of Talking." In some cases, marks were considerably higher than performances merited, while in other cases marks were too low. One Centre could not be moderated because of the very poor quality of the recording.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Centres should always be aware of the guidelines in "Assessment of Talking." Centres should note that poor quality recordings work against candidates, as moderators must be satisfied as to what candidates are saying. While most Centres carry out assessment in line with arrangements and guidelines, some do not mark accordingly to the criteria supplied.