

31 October 2008

To: SQA Co-ordinator
Directors of Education

**For the attention of all staff responsible for the
delivery of National Qualifications in English**

Action by Recipient	
	Response required
✓	Note and pass on
	None — update/information only

Contact: Bridget Loney at Glasgow
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Dear Colleague

National Qualifications — English

2008 Reports

Reports on internal and external assessment for 2008 are available on SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk) together with Candidate Guides, marking instructions, and other information and guidance.

Understanding Standards

Examples of candidate work from examinations at some levels, with marks and commentaries, are available on the "Understanding Standards Website" (USW), which can be accessed through a link on the English subject page of SQA's website.

Advanced Higher

Candidates should be reminded that in the Advanced Higher English examination, unless otherwise indicated in the examination paper, an answer must take a specified form (in Literary Study and in Reading the Media, a critical essay; in Language Study, an essay/analytical report; in Textual Analysis, a critical analysis) appropriately structured to meet the demands of the selected question. In and after the 2009 examination, the rubrics in the examination paper will include a reminder to candidates on this matter. The specimen question paper (available on SQA's website) shows the instructions which will be added in and after 2009.

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Each candidate for Advanced Higher English should also be reminded that, as indicated on the cover of the examination paper (and as instructed by the invigilator at the start of the examination), there is a requirement for the candidate to write inside the front cover of the Literary Study answer booklet the **topic** and the **texts** of the Specialist Study (Dissertation). The purpose of this requirement is to confirm clearly to the Marker of Literary Study that there is no overlap between Specialist Study and Literary Study with regard to any author or text chosen by the candidate concerned.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "B Loney".

Miss B Loney
Qualifications Manager