



# Higher English

Assessment of Critical Essay



## Aim of the Event

- ◆ To clarify for delegates the revised Categories and Descriptors introduced in the 2008 examination
- ◆ To exemplify the application of the revised Categories and Descriptors
- ◆ To provide an opportunity for delegates to identify existing best practice and to clarify issues



# Format of the Event

These aims will be achieved through:

- ◆ A presentation  
*and*
- ◆ A workshop session



# Colin Eckford

Principal Assessor  
Higher English



# Why change?

- ◆ Bunching of marks in old system
- ◆ Artificial barrier at 15/16
- ◆ Lack of discrimination



# Why adopt this system?

- ◆ Remove the A/B/C connection
- ◆ Reward good but unspectacular work
- ◆ Simplify and clarify



# Why change without notice?

- ◆ If it's a good idea ...
- ◆ If notified in February ...
- ◆ If delayed until 2009 ...



# Did it work?

- ◆ Markers' responses
- ◆ Average Mark
- ◆ Impact on Grade Distribution



**And finally ...**

## **Some General Points**

- ◆ Adequacy of Preparation
- ◆ Structure of essays
- ◆ Prelim Questions and Appeals Evidence



Any Questions?





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