
Modern Languages: Understanding Language

SCQF: level 7 (8 SCQF credit points)

Unit code:	J22F 77	Cantonese
	J2DY 77	French
	J2E5 77	Gaelic (Learners)
	J2EP 77	German
	J22P 77	Italian
	J27W 77	Mandarin (Simplified)
	J283 77	Mandarin (Traditional)
	J2DL 77	Spanish

Unit outline

The purpose of this Unit is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop and extend reading and listening skills in the modern language, and to develop their knowledge and understanding of complex and sophisticated language in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Understand complex and sophisticated written language
- 2 Understand complex and sophisticated spoken language

This Unit is 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.

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:

- ◆ the relevant Higher Modern Languages Course or relevant Units

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*.

Standards

Outcomes and Assessment Standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

1 Understand complex and sophisticated written language by:

- 1.1 Identifying overall purpose and providing relevant explanation and/or analysis
- 1.2 Identifying and explaining main points and supporting detail
- 1.3 Applying knowledge and understanding of the modern language

Outcome 2

The learner will:

2 Understand complex and sophisticated spoken language by:

- 2.1 Identifying and explaining overall purpose
- 2.2 Identifying and explaining main points and supporting detail
- 2.3 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 reading and listening skills by:

- ◆ showing understanding of at least one complex and sophisticated written text
- ◆ showing understanding of at least one complex and sophisticated spoken text

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

Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Assessment Support*.

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*.

Administrative information

Published: October 2020 (version 4.0)

Superclass: FK

History of changes

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
2.0	Unit title and content have been restructured since publication to reflect the hierarchy from National 3 to Higher. Understanding Language Unit Specification documents separated. Clarification provided in Unit outline section — Outcome numbers changed: Outcome 1 'Understand complex and sophisticated written language' and Outcome 2 'Understand complex and sophisticated spoken language'. Number of Assessment Standards reduced from 4 to 3 in Outcome 1. Evidence requirements amended.	Qualifications Development Manager	April 2015
3.0	Level changed from Advanced Higher to SCQF level 7. Unit code updated.	Qualifications Manager	July 2019
4.0	Gaelic (Learners) new unit code updated on title page.	Qualifications Manager	October 2020

This specification may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged. Additional copies of this Unit can be downloaded from SQA's website at www.sqa.org.uk.

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.

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2020