



Common questions about National 3, National 4 and National 5 Hospitality: Practical Cookery

Can candidates prepare unit assessment dishes over a number of days/periods?

For the *Cookery Skills, Techniques and Processes* unit, the dishes can be assessed individually, eg one on the first session and one on the second, because it is the candidate's ability to carry out the range of skills/processes in the dishes being made that is being assessed.

In the *Organisational Skills for Cooking* unit, it is not acceptable to assess each of the dishes in a separate session because that does not show the organisational skills required to integrate the preparing and cooking of the two dishes. If it is not possible to assess this unit in one session, then it could be done the following way, eg:

Session 1: Prepare ingredients for both dishes

Session 2: Cook and serve both dishes

What dietary advice would be acceptable for assessment purposes?

The course specification states 'Current Dietary Advice'. There is a lot of dietary advice that can be described as 'current'. SQA will accept as correct in a candidate response any dietary advice from a credible source.

Where can additional support materials be found?

Understanding Standards materials for Unit and Course assessments can be found in the Understanding Standards section of SQA's secure website. PowerPoint presentations and workshop materials from the Understanding Standards event can be found by following the link for Understanding Standards Events Materials on the Hospitality: Practical Cookery subject page.

Are unit assessments carried out under examination conditions?

Centres should refer to the Assessment Conditions section of the unit assessment support packs for individual unit assessment conditions.

Can the unit assessment in the support pack be amended before use?

All unit assessment support packs are produced in Word. This enables a centre to alter the layout of the assessment to suit their candidates, eg to allow more space for candidate responses. However, if the method used by candidates to provide evidence for the assessment standards is altered, then this should be prior verified before use.

Is it necessary to include a photograph in unit assessments?

Good quality photographs can help clarify assessor judgments, and can be used in conjunction with a less detailed assessor comment. If a photograph is not available, then a detailed assessor comment indicating where each assessment standard has been met is required. This could be either on the candidate workbook or in the Assessor's Checklist of Candidate Attainment, copies of which can be found in the unit assessment support pack.

Is there a pass mark for National 4 units?

Marks are not awarded in units. In order to pass any unit, including National 4 Added Value unit, candidates must meet all assessment standards, as outlined in column 3 of the Judging evidence table in the relevant unit assessment support pack. A candidate who fails to meet an assessment standard must be re-assessed in that assessment standard before they can be recorded as achieving the unit.

How much assistance can be given to National 5 candidates when they are producing the timeplan for course assessment?

As indicated in the General Assessment Information for this course, the Planning stage must be carried out independently under the supervision of the assessor. It is this version of the candidate's planning that will be awarded marks, and so must be entirely the candidate's own work. It is these marks that must be entered on the Practical Activity Assessment Record. Once these marks have been recorded, assessors may suggest corrections or improvements to the candidate's plan to enable them to have a workable plan for use in Stage 2. If, after being given guidance, the candidate is unable to produce a workable plan, they may be given a centre-devised plan.

National Qualification questions and answers can be found on the [frequently asked questions section](#) of SQA's website.