National 4 Unit Specification

ESOL in Context (National 4)

SCQF: level 4 (9 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: H24L 74

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to develop the language skills needed for familiar work- and study-related contexts for learners whose first language is not English. Learners develop the skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking, using straightforward English language. In this Unit, the contexts of either work or study will be personalised to meet the needs of learners.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

1 Understand straightforward language written in English
2 Produce written English using straightforward language
3 Understand straightforward language spoken in English
4 Communicate orally in English using straightforward language

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the National 4 ESOL Course and is also 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. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support.*

The *Added Value Unit Specification* for the National 4 ESOL Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the National 4 ESOL Course.

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:

- National 3 ESOL Course or relevant component Units

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Unit.

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 straightforward language written in English by:

1.1 Identifying overall purpose, main points and aspects of detail
1.2 Identifying how straightforward vocabulary and text features are used to convey meaning
1.3 Identifying clearly expressed opinions or attitudes
1.4 Identifying straightforward features of layout

Outcome 2

The learner will:

2 Produce written English using straightforward language by:

2.1 Using straightforward structures and vocabulary, as appropriate
2.2 Using grammar, spelling and punctuation sufficiently accurately to convey meaning
2.3 Using conventions of style and layout, as appropriate

Outcome 3

The learner will:

3 Understand straightforward language spoken in English by:

3.1 Identifying overall context, main points and aspects of detail
3.2 Identifying clearly expressed opinions or attitudes

Outcome 4

The learner will:

4 Communicate orally in English using straightforward language by:

4.1 Using straightforward structures and vocabulary, as appropriate
4.2 Communicating sufficiently accurately and coherently to convey meaning
4.3 Maintaining interaction, as appropriate

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, writing, listening and speaking skills by:

- understanding at least one text written in straightforward English language
- producing at least one written text using straightforward English language
- understanding at least one text spoken in straightforward English language
- communicating orally in at least one interaction using straightforward English language

Evidence should be gathered in combination with other Outcomes where possible, either from this Unit or in combination with the Outcomes from the Unit *ESOL for Everyday Life*. Evidence may also be gathered for individual Outcomes where appropriate.

Contexts will be drawn from at least one familiar work- or study-related context.

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

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

1.1 Reading
1.2 Writing
1.3 Listening and talking

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

4.6 Citizenship

5 Thinking skills

5.3 Applying

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 of 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: April 2012 (version 1.0)

Superclass: FK

History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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 2012