

Exemplar Question Papers for Higher English

The Exemplar Question Papers and Marking Instructions have been developed to be used by centres and candidates to prepare for question papers (exams) as part of Higher Course assessment. They show how questions from past papers can be used or amended to support candidates in their exam preparation.

The structure of the Exemplar Question Paper is aligned with the guidance in the Course Assessment Specification, which is available on the subject page (at www.sqa.org.uk/browsecfsubjects).

The questions in the Exemplar Question Papers follow the style and structure of similar questions in the [Specimen Question Papers](#) (also available on the subject page). The paper overall is designed to provide the same level of demand as the Specimen Question Papers; and the detailed marking instructions reflect the approach of those in the Specimen Question Papers.

The questions included in the Higher Exemplar Question Papers were, as far as possible, selected or amended from those used in past papers, in accordance with the [Guidance on the use of past paper questions](#) document. Care has been taken to align the information in this table below with the questions identified in the guidance document and used in the Exemplar Question Papers. Any misalignment in this information will be updated as part of our regular revisions in 2015.

If no suitable questions were available in recent past papers for reasons of sampling or because there is now new content, new questions were developed or appropriate questions were selected/adapted from other years. Details of how questions have been amended for this Exemplar Question Papers are given in the table below.

When using any past paper questions, it is important to remember that centres and candidates must take into account the generic guidance on selection and/or amendments to questions below.

- ◆ You must select questions that provide the learners with the same level of challenge as those in the Higher Specimen Question Papers.
- ◆ You may be able to use questions as published or with amendments as suggested in the columns below.
- ◆ You must use questions that adhere to the Higher General Marking Principles and reflect the form of Detailed Marking Instructions as published in the Higher Specimen Question Papers.

If any change to a question/items is necessary, you must ensure that:

- ◆ The style and structure matches the Specimen Question Papers for Higher.
- ◆ Marking of the learner's response to the question adheres to the General Marking Principles in the Higher Specimen Question Papers.
- ◆ Marking Instructions are amended to reflect the style of the Higher Detailed Marking Instructions.

Additional Subject Specific Information for Higher English

The table below shows which questions in the Exemplar Question Papers were selected/amended from past papers (and in what way they were amended) – in accordance with the **Guidance on the use of past paper questions for Higher** document and also lists any new questions.

The Exemplar Question Papers for Higher can be found on the [subject page](#).

The Critical Reading Section 1 — Scottish Texts is a new area of Course content.

The Critical Reading Section 2 — Critical Essay has changed in that it now requires the candidate to complete one essay only. The design of the questions has taken account of this.

The 2010 Close Reading past paper was used in the Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation question paper as this contained two passages largely in agreement which reflected closely the two passages in the Specimen Question Paper.

Glossary of terms

Term	Explanatory Comment
Question used as published in past paper	Past paper question has been used as previously published.
Past paper question with context amended	Past paper question has been used, but the basis of the information has altered, eg in Geography, this may mean a change in context from glaciation to coasts.
Past paper question with source amended	Past paper question has been used, but the source of information is different, eg in English this may mean a different text has been used.
Past paper question with style amended	Past paper question has been used, but the style of questioning has changed, eg in Mathematics, multiple-choice questions may have been changed to a short response question.
Past paper question with structure amended	Past paper question has been used but the structure of the question has changed, eg in Physics it may mean only part of question was used with amendments to marking instructions to take account of no half marks.
New question written	This is a new area of Course content.

Critical Reading — Section 1 — Scottish Text

Exemplar question number	Question used as published in past paper, with or without amendment to Marking Instructions	Past paper question with style amended	Past paper question with structure amended	New question written
1–61				New questions. This is a new part of the Course.

Critical Reading — Section 2 — Critical Essay

Exemplar question number	Question used as published in past paper, with or without amendment to Marking Instructions	Past paper question with style amended	Past paper question with structure amended	New question written
1–16				New questions. Candidates will complete one essay and not two as in earlier past papers.

Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

The 2010 Close Reading past paper was chosen as the two passages largely agree with each other. This reflects the two passages in the specimen question paper more closely than the passages in the 2011–13 past papers.

Exemplar question number	Question used as published in past paper, with or without amendment to Marking Instructions	Past paper question with context amended	Past paper question with source amended	Past paper question with style amended	Past paper question with structure amended	New question written
1				1(a) Adapted from 2010 past paper Q1		1(b) New question written.
2				Adapted from 2010 past paper Q3		
3				Adapted from 2010 past paper Q4; and combined with new element to address larger segment of passage.		
4				4 (a) Adapted from 2010 past paper Q6; and combined with new element to address larger segment of passage. 4(b) Combines elements of 2010 past paper Q7(a), Q7(b) and Q8.		
5				Adapted from 2010 past paper Q9.		
6						No suitable question in 2010 past paper. New question written to reflect Curriculum for Excellence design.
7						New type of question on both passages. Adapted from the 'comparison' question currently used in existing Higher Course.