



NUMERACY
SCQF Level 5
40 Hour Unit (F3GF 11)

CORE SKILLS UNIT

What are Core Skills?

Core Skills are skills and abilities that everyone uses in their family and personal life, at work, in public, in the community, and in education and training.

The Core Skills are:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Information and Communication Technology
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Working with Others

They are important because they help you to be effective in almost everything you do. That's also why employers value them.

Improving your Core Skills helps you cope with today's quickly changing world. It will make you more confident, help you to learn more easily, and improve your career prospects.

What is this Core Skills Unit about?

This Unit is about using numerical skills in everyday settings that involve graphical information, calculations, and solving problems. If there are any words you don't understand in this Unit, your tutor will explain them to you.

What should I know or be able to do before I start?

You may have achieved the Core Skills Unit in Numeracy at SCQF level 4. Alternatively, you may be able to show that you have similar experience, for example, using tables, graphs, charts, and diagrams to extract and convey information; making calculations involving money, time, length, weight, area, volume, or temperature.

What do I need to do?

You will:

- ◆ analyse situations to identify relevant numerical data and relationships to solve problems
- ◆ decide which operations to carry out, and in what order, to solve a problem
- ◆ use numerical or statistical concepts (for example, quantitative and qualitative information; discrete and continuous data; numbers represented by symbols)
- ◆ carry out a number of sustained calculations or at least one specialised calculation
- ◆ interpret information from a single complex graphical form or from a series of straightforward interconnected tables, graphs, charts, or diagrams
- ◆ select an appropriate type of graphical form and use it to communicate information

How do I get this Unit?

You will need to show that you have all the skills in the Unit.

You will carry out numeracy activities that involve:

- ◆ using numbers, carrying out calculations, and drawing conclusions from your answers
- ◆ creating, extracting, and analysing information from tables, graphs, charts, or diagrams

Your tutor might watch you using numbers, doing calculations, using graphical information, and drawing conclusions from your answers. You could show your skills by writing or telling your tutor your answers.

You can use a calculator or other electronic method to get your answers if you would usually do this.

What might this involve?

Here are examples of some things you might do:

- ◆ determine disposable income for a household from monthly accounts
- ◆ solve a problem using a formula, such as costing the raw materials to decorate a room in your house
- ◆ calculate the number of people in a specific age group from a population pyramid
- ◆ produce a histogram showing a breakdown of users of a community facility by age, gender, or income
- ◆ calculate acceleration from a velocity/time graph

What can I do next?

You could move on to the Numeracy Unit at SCQF level 6.

You could think about doing other Core Skills Units in:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Information and Communication Technology
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Working with Others

Your tutor can advise you about this.

Guidance for tutors

The work undertaken should involve activities set in unfamiliar situations where the relevant facts and their importance need to be clarified, or more familiar situations where an analytical approach is needed. Learners will be able to work independently.

Further guidance is available in the accompanying Assessment Support Pack.

Disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Credit value

6 SCQF credit points (1 SQA credit) at SCQF level 5



Unit code: F3GF 11
Superclass: RB
Publication date: August 2009
Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority
Version: 02

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