

## Gàidhlig

### The Qualifications Team

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## Changes to assessment at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher

As announced by the Deputy First Minister in September 2016, units and unit assessments are being removed from National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher courses on a phased basis over three years:

- National 5 from 2017–18
- Higher from 2018–19
- Advanced Higher from 2019–20

For more information, including a Q&A on the implications of these changes, please visit our website at [www.sqa.org.uk/nqchanges](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqchanges)

### Units that were previously part of National 5 courses

The units that were previously part of National 5 courses are now freestanding units at SCQF level 5. They can no longer be used to contribute to the achievement of a National 5 course.

We will remove all references to National 5 courses from the unit specifications, unit support notes and unit assessment support packs in due course, and the unit support notes will be added to the unit specifications as an appendix. The unit specifications will also be relocated to a new freestanding units web page for each subject.

Further information on the timescales for this will be provided in our weekly Centre News newsletter.

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## Changes to assessment in National 5

The National 5 Gàidhlig course is now assessed through the following components:

Component	Marks
Question paper 1: Leughadh (Reading)	30
Question paper 1: Litreachas (Literature)	20
Question paper 2: Èisteachd (Listening)	20
Obair shònraichte-sgrìobhadh (Assignment–writing)	20
Còmhradh (Performance–talking)	30

## Changes to assessment in Higher courses from session 2018–19

Units and unit assessments will be removed from Higher courses from session 2018–19 and we have started our review of the Higher course assessments. For this, we are working closely with our National Qualifications Support Teams (NQSTs) for each subject. Our NQSTs include teachers and lecturers who currently deliver National Courses, and representatives of professional associations. We will also meet with a sample of teachers to gauge their views on the proposed changes and the implications of these.

The publication of new and revised Higher materials will follow a similar timescale to National 5:

<b>End of April 2018</b>	Revised Higher course specifications
<b>End of May to end of September 2018</b>	Course support notes New/revised specimen question papers New/revised coursework assessment tasks

We will provide further information on what the changes to assessment are for each subject by the end of January 2018.

## Changes to documents

### New and revised National 5 documents and assessment support materials

Following the removal of units and unit assessments from the National 5 Gàidhlig course, we have strengthened the course assessment to ensure it assesses the full content of the course.

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We have published revised course specifications and new and/or revised assessment support materials for the National 5 course(s), which detail the requirements of the revised course assessments from session 2017–18 onwards. The documents are available from the National 5 subject web pages at [www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects](http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqsubjects). Further information on the changes to documents and assessment support materials is provided below.

### **Course specification**

In April 2017, we published a revised course specification which provided detailed information about the National 5 course and course assessment, including the conditions of assessment that must be followed. The revised document was produced by merging the previous course specifications, course assessment specifications and general assessment information into a single, streamlined document. Course support notes have been added to the course specification as an appendix.

The National 5 Gàidhlig course specification is available on the [National 5 Gàidhlig web page](#).

### **Coursework assessment task**

We have created a new coursework assessment task for assignment–writing.

We have also reviewed the existing coursework assessment task for performance–talking.

Both coursework assessment tasks can be downloaded from the ‘Coursework’ tab, under ‘Coursework’ on the [National 5 Gàidhlig web page](#).

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## Supportive resources

### National 5 CPD webinar

To help teachers and lecturers prepare for the changes to assessment in the National 5 course, we ran a series of subject-specific continuing professional development (CPD) webinars that focused on the requirements of the course assessment.

A recording of the webinar is available to view online via our website and can be accessed from the **CPD webinar/audio and support** tab on the [National 5 Gàidhlig web page](#).

## Further information and guidance

### Timetable changes from 2018 onwards

Please note that 10 minutes have been added to the Higher question paper 'Leughadh agus Sgrìobhadh', and that 10 minutes have been added to the Advanced Higher question paper 'Litreachas agus Sgrìobhadh'.

### National 5 coursework assignment–writing booklet

Candidates are required to submit the assignment–writing in an answer booklet which will be issued by SQA to centres as stationery. A Word version of the booklet will be available in the 'Coursework' tab in the Assessment section of the [National 5 Gàidhlig web page](#). This is available for candidates who wish to complete the assignment–writing electronically.

If candidates complete the assignment–writing electronically using the Word versions of the booklet(s), it is essential that each booklet is printed double-sided to constitute a submission.

Please note that the submission date for the assignment–writing is Wednesday 21 March 2018.

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## Stay informed

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