



NQ Verification 2016–17 Key Messages Round 2

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Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Italian
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	June 2017

National Courses/Units verified:

H21D 74 National 4 Assignment (Added Value Unit)
C742 75 National 5 Performance–talking (IACCA*)
C742 76 Higher Performance–talking (IACCA)

* Internally-assessed component of course assessment

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Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Added value unit

The approaches to assessment used by the centre selected for verification were 'accepted'. This demonstrates that the centre has followed guidelines and made use of the feedback and support provided by SQA in publication updates, the verification key messages reports and at events (for nominees and practitioners) in 2014–16. This should be reassuring for practitioners and is to be commended. Centres are reminded that centre-devised assessments should follow the SQA guidelines and advice in approaches to assessment.

The added value unit assessments sampled this year had been adapted from the *Modern Languages Assignment (National 4) Added Value Unit*. The centre had translated the assessment into Italian from the text provided on the SQA secure site to produce an effective assessment. The centre provided a copy of both the translated assessment and the judging evidence table with the candidate evidence, and this was helpful to the nominee verifiers.

Centres should feel free to reformat the assessments provided in the unit assessment support packs by slightly amending the questions, the texts or the layout to suit their candidates' needs while maintaining the standards. Should the amendments to the texts or questions be minor, these would not require to be prior verified.

National 5 and Higher performance–talking

The centres verified for performance–talking had used the SQA course assessment task (Modern Languages performance–talking) to assess candidates at National 5 and Higher effectively. The chosen topics for the performance provided candidates with a good opportunity to show a range of structures and tenses and to express ideas at both levels. The presentations and conversations provided scope for candidates to demonstrate accurate handling of detailed language and of a range of tenses appropriate to the level. Candidates responded effectively to a supportive interlocutor. Generally speaking, conversations were of an interactive nature allowing candidates to demonstrate their ability to sustain a conversation.

Assessment judgements

Added value unit

In assessing the added value unit, assessors had made effective use of the information on judging evidence to support assessment judgements for each candidate.

The assessment judgments made by assessors in the centres sampled were 'accepted' as they were in line with national standards.

National 5 and Higher performance–talking

The approaches to assessment used by centres selected for verification were 'accepted'.

In assessing the performance–talking, assessors had made effective use of the marking instructions to support the marks awarded to each candidate. Centres had provided a simple but clear pro forma for each candidate giving a commentary on each performance and a record of the marks awarded for each section. The pro forma also provided evidence of internal verification. This document was useful during the verification process.

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Section 3: General comments

The evidence submitted by centres was presented in well organised packages, and this facilitated the verification process.

It is important to check that the SQA Verification Sample Form is the correct type of form for the evidence requested — either for unit or IACCA and that it is completed correctly and matches the information on the candidates' scripts.