

Scottish Qualifications Authority

English — summary of assessment requirements (internal and external)

Standard Grade English

There are three elements, Reading, Writing and Talking, equally weighted. Grading is on a scale of 1 to 7 (1 being the top grade).

- ◆ Half of the Reading element is assessed in the SQA examination. The other half of the Reading element is assessed by submission of Reading folio pieces (assessed by SQA).
- ◆ Half of the Writing element is assessed in the SQA examination. The other half of the Writing element is assessed by submission of Writing folio pieces (assessed by SQA).
- ◆ The Talking element is assessed internally (by the school or college).

Access 3 English

There is no external assessment (SQA examination) for Access 3 English.

The three Units of Access 3 English are assessed internally (by the school or college) on a pass/fail basis. To gain a complete award, a candidate must have gained a pass in each of the following three Units:

- ◆ Language Study (with internal assessment of Close Reading and Writing)
- ◆ Literary Study (with internal assessment of unseen Textual Analysis – prose, poetry or drama)
- ◆ Personal Study (with internal assessment of written response or spoken response).

Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2 and Higher English

At each of these levels, there is external assessment (SQA examination) and internal assessment (conducted by the school or college).

The SQA examination at each level has two papers: Close Reading and Critical Essay.

To gain a complete award (graded A, B, C or D), a candidate must have gained an award in the examination and must also have gained a pass in each of the following three Units (assessed internally on a pass/fail basis):

- ◆ Language Study (with internal assessment of Close Reading and Writing)
- ◆ Literary Study (with internal assessment of unseen Textual Analysis – prose, poetry or drama)
- ◆ Personal Study (with internal assessment of written response or spoken response).

Advanced Higher English

At this level, there is external assessment (conducted by SQA) and internal assessment (conducted by the school or college) of three components/Units: Specialist Study, Literary Study and Optional Study.

- ◆ Specialist Study is assessed internally on a pass/fail basis and externally by submission of a dissertation (assessed by SQA).
- ◆ Literary Study is assessed internally on a pass/fail basis and externally in the examination.
- ◆ Creative Writing (if chosen as the optional study) is assessed internally on a pass/fail basis and externally by submission of a folio (assessed by SQA).
- ◆ Textual Analysis or Language Study or Reading the Media (if one of these is chosen as the optional study) is assessed internally on a pass/fail basis and externally in the examination.
- ◆ Awards are graded A, B, C or D.