



NQ Verification 2021–22 Round 2

Qualification Verification Summary Report

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Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	National Courses — Italian
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	June 2022

National Courses/Units verified:

C842 75	National 5	Italian: Performance–talking (IACCA*)
C842 76	Higher	Italian: Performance–talking (IACCA)

*Internally-assessed component of course assessment

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Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Centres used the SQA course assessment tasks for the performance–talking to assess candidates at National 5 and Higher appropriately.

The National 5 coursework task has had the same format (presentation and conversation) since session 2017–18, and centres are therefore familiar with how it works. Similarly, the format of the Higher performance–talking task (discussion) has been used since session 2018–19 and is therefore well established in centres.

At National 5, centres encouraged candidates to select contexts/topics for the presentation and conversation which provided scope for candidates to express opinions and ideas. Candidates were able to demonstrate accurate handling of detailed language as well as a range of tenses appropriate to the level. In the conversation, candidates generally responded well to a supportive interlocutor.

At Higher, most assessors asked a good range of open-ended questions allowing candidates to demonstrate their ability to sustain a wide-ranging discussion appropriate to the level. Candidates often dealt successfully with unpredictable elements introduced by the assessor.

When centres are assessing native-speaker candidates, assessors should use for example a range of questioning techniques, avoiding too many closed questions, to ensure candidates have the opportunity to demonstrate the level and range of language required.

Assessment judgements

The overall standard of candidate performance was very high, and the marks awarded by centres were in line with national standards, reliable and accepted.

Assessors had generally made effective use of the detailed marking instructions to support the marks awarded to each candidate. Centres should make close reference to the detailed marking instructions for the appropriate level when making notes (for example on the candidate assessment record) on judgements and pegged mark allocation.

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Section 3: General comments

Verifiers saw a variety of internal verification procedures, ranging from cross-marking with a brief comment to evidence of an internal verification process which was thorough, detailed and highly effective.

It was particularly useful when centres provided a commentary on candidates' performance relating to the detailed marking instructions in terms of content, accuracy and language resource (and interaction, where appropriate). For National 5 candidates, this should be provided for each subsection of the performance–talking (presentation, conversation, sustaining the conversation).

It was useful where centres provided documented professional dialogue between the assessor and internal verifier, and this often promoted consistency of standards.

For verification to proceed, centres must provide the marks awarded for each subsection of the performance–talking at National 5 (presentation, conversation, sustaining the conversation), along with a total out of 30 marks. A total out of 30 marks for the Higher discussion must be provided.

Centres must also insert the total mark for each candidate's performance–talking in the 'Mark (centre use)' column on the verification sample form.