



National
Qualifications
2026

2026 Gaelic (Learners)

Reading

National 5

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

These marking instructions have been prepared by examination teams for use by Qualifications Scotland appointed markers when marking external course assessments.

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General marking principles for National 5 Gaelic (Learners) Reading

This information is provided to help you understand the general principles you must apply when marking candidate responses to questions in this paper. These principles must be read in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidate responses.

- (a) Marks for each candidate response must **always** be assigned in line with these general marking principles and the detailed marking instructions for this assessment.
- (b) Marking should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.
- (c) If a specific candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (d) Award a mark to each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions.
- (e) For questions that ask candidates to ‘state’ or ‘give’, candidates must give a brief, accurate response/name.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
1.	(a)		more than 500 miles [box 3]	1	
	(b)		circle	1	
	(c)		- be careful on corners - use passing places/laybys - don't drive too fast or slow Any 2 from 3	2	
	(d)		- beautiful views - white beaches - fishing towns - tall mountains Any 3 from 4	3	
	(e)		rural communities	1	
	(f)		- leaving rubbish - parking in silly places	2	

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
2.	(a)		6 subjects at National 5	1	
	(b)		- first week - October last year	2	
	(c)		- history of South Africa - American politics	2	
	(d)	(i)	- literature is interesting - grammar is easier than Spanish	2	
		(ii)	helpful and understanding	1	
	(e)		- take a gap year - do voluntary work/volunteering	2	

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
3.	(a)		- different areas - West of Scotland	2	area
	(b)		between Thursday afternoon/evening (and) Saturday night	2	
	(c)		- Isle of Man - Wales - Northern Ireland Any 2 for 1 mark	1	Ireland
	(d)		- face painting - traditional games - listening to stories/storytelling	3	
	(e)		- very lively - watched highland dancing - met interesting tourists Any 1 from 3	1	
	(f)		£170	1	

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]