National
Qualifications
2026

2026 ESOL

Listening

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 ESOL Listening

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) The marking instructions indicate the essential idea that a candidate should provide for each answer.

(e) Where there are multiple choice questions, award 0 marks where a candidate ticks all boxes.

(f) In addition, markers should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding to mark candidate responses.

Marking instructions for each question

Recording 1

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
1.			B	**1**	
2.			B	**1**	
3.			A B	**2**	
4.			controlled environment	**1**	No more than 3 words (NMT3W)
5.			follow guidelines	**1**	NMT3W
6.			heart problems/health issues	**1**	NMT3W
7.			warm place	**1**	NMT3W NOT: warm bath

Recording 2

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
8.			D	**1**	
9.			B	**1**	
10.			C	**1**	
11.			C	**1**	
12.			childhood (stories)	**1**	NMT3W NOT: child stories
13.			celebrity	**1**	NMT3W Accept any reasonable spelling/synonym of 'celebrity' NOT: famous artist
14.			(formal) training	**1**	NMT3W
15.			no plans	**1**	NMT3W Accept any synonym of 'plans'
16.			C	**1**	

Recording 3

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
17.			C	**1**	
18.			D	**1**	
19.			B	**1**	
20.			sick days	**1**	NMT3W
21.			(pupils') moods	**1**	NMT3W
22.			(overwhelming) majority	**1**	NMT3W Accept answers suggesting 'a majority'
23.			homework	**1**	NMT3W NOT: everyday learning
24.			(children's) privacy	**1**	NMT3W Accept any reasonable spelling of 'privacy'

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]