



2012 Gaelic (Learners)

Standard Grade Writing

Finalised Marking Instructions

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2012

The information in this publication may be reproduced to support SQA qualifications only on a non-commercial basis. If it is to be used for any other purposes written permission must be obtained from SQA's NQ Delivery: Exam Operations.

Where the publication includes materials from sources other than SQA (secondary copyright), this material should only be reproduced for the purposes of examination or assessment. If it needs to be reproduced for any other purpose it is the centre's responsibility to obtain the necessary copyright clearance. SQA's NQ Delivery: Exam Operations may be able to direct you to the secondary sources.

These Marking Instructions have been prepared by Examination Teams for use by SQA Appointed Markers when marking External Course Assessments. This publication must not be reproduced for commercial or trade purposes.

2012 Gaelic (Learners) Standard Grade Writing

In allocating a grade, the criteria below should be referred to along with the Extended Grade Criteria overleaf. A candidate who is operating at Credit level will competently integrate almost all the criteria listed. At General level, there will be some omissions, inaccuracies and difficulties in integrating the criteria.

(1) You are blogging about a holiday you are on.

You **may** include the following points:

- where you are
- how you got there
- where you are staying and what it is like
- what you have been doing
- what the weather is like
- when you are leaving
- whether you would like to go back and why
- any other information you like.

OR

(2) You are writing an essay in your Gaelic class about a concert you were at.

You **may** include the following points:

- where the concert was
- what it cost
- who was playing
- what they played
- when it was on (date and time)
- what the people in the audience were like
- whether you enjoyed it and why
- any other information you like.

OR

(3) You are preparing a speech about a school trip you were on.

You **may** include the following points:

- where you went
- how much it cost
- where you stayed
- what your accommodation was like
- what you did
- what the weather was like
- whether you enjoyed it and why
- any other information you like.

OR

(4) You are writing a speech about yourself, which will be recorded in your Gaelic class.

You **may** include the following points:

- your name
- your age
- what sisters/brothers/cousins you have
- what they look like
- what their likes/dislikes are
- your school subjects and what you think of them
- your hobbies and what you think of them
- any other information you like.

Candidates' work will be assessed by referring to the extended Grade Related Criteria for Writing.

The extended Grade Related Criteria for Writing are:

General Level
(grades 4, 3)

Credit Level
(grades 2, 1)

Purpose of Communication

The candidate can respond to given stimuli, convey and seek specific information and express feelings and opinions.

The candidate can respond to given stimuli, convey and seek information, express feelings and opinions, describe a personal or vicarious experience and common activities and events.

Nature of Communication

With time for preparation, the candidate can communicate intelligibly, showing some evidence of accuracy in spelling, grammar and sentence construction.

With time for preparation, the candidate can convey meaning clearly at first reading. Work shows accuracy in spelling, grammar and sentence construction, a range of vocabulary and some appropriate use of idiom.

Work in the main consists of sentences and short sequences of sentences which may contain subordinate clauses and modification devices such as adjectives and adverbs.

Extended work is produced, eg reports, reviews, letters and transcripts of dialogues or interviews.

The above aspects on the previous page can be tabulated for ease of application, as follows:

Intelligibility		Intelligible			Meaning clear at 1st reading		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1
Spelling		Some accuracy			Mainly accurate		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1
Grammar		Some accuracy			Mainly accurate		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1
Sentence construction		Some accuracy			Accuracy		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1
Vocabulary		No specification			A range		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1
Idiom		No specification			Some appropriate use		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1
Command of language		Mainly short sentences			Short and detailed sentences		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1
Standard		Satisfactory – high/medium			Satisfactory – high		
	General Level 4		General Level 3		Credit Level 2		Credit Level 1

Each candidate's work is assessed on its own merits, based on the above aspects, in relation to the purpose of communication appropriate to the stimuli. In deciding which of the two grades to award within each Level, consideration is given to whether, in meeting the stated criteria for a particular Level, the candidate

- has demonstrated a high standard of performance, or
- has demonstrated a lower standard of performance but nevertheless meets the criteria

If a candidate does not merit grade 4 or better, enter the code 444 (instead of grade) on the script and on Form Ex6.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]