

# English

## **The Qualifications Team**

**Emma Bratchell**

Qualifications Manager

**Jay de Pellette-Super**

Qualifications Officer

**David Swinney**

Subject Implementation Manager

## **Diet 2019**

### **Course reports**

Please read the annual course reports for English. We produce these reports following the exam diet and they provide information on how candidates performed in course assessment for National Qualifications.

Course reports include a summary of areas candidates performed well in and areas candidates found demanding. They also contain advice on preparing candidates for future assessment, and statistical data relating to grade boundaries. Course reports are available from the subject pages of our website at [www.sqa.org.uk/ngsubjects](http://www.sqa.org.uk/ngsubjects).

## **Coursework**

### **Submitting coursework**

Please ensure candidates use the current, published coursework assessment tasks.

Templates for the submission of coursework are available on the English subject pages under the 'Coursework' tab. These are available in both Microsoft Word and Google Docs format.

Further information can be found in our [Coursework for External Assessment](#) document and the subject pages of our website at [www.sqa.org.uk/ngsubjects](http://www.sqa.org.uk/ngsubjects).

# Information and guidance

## Understanding Standards events

We are running four Understanding Standards events for National 5 and Higher English. The focus of the events will be on exemplification of national standards in the Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation question paper and the portfolio–writing. These events provide delegates with the opportunity to participate in workshops covering both components at both levels, as well as to have their questions answered by members of the senior examining team. Please note the materials being presented are those used for marker training and quality assurance in the 2019 exam diet.

The events will take place on:

- ◆ Saturday 23 November 2019 – Glasgow
- ◆ Saturday 30 November 2019 – Stirling
- ◆ Friday 6 December 2019 – Edinburgh
- ◆ Monday 9 December 2019 – Inverness

To view the event schedule and book your place, visit <http://www.sqa.org.uk/nqevents>. All materials presented at the events will be published on our Understanding Standards website after the events.

## Additional Understanding Standards material for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher

We are currently preparing additional Understanding Standards material for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher. For the National 5 and Higher Critical Reading question paper, existing materials will be supplemented by additional candidate scripts and assessment commentaries from the 2019 assessment diet. For Advanced Higher, we will publish additional candidate evidence and assessment commentaries for the project–dissertation and portfolio–writing. There will be an update in Centre News when these materials are available.

## Literacy measure on Insight

An A–D award in National 5 English will continue to contribute to the Literacy measure on Insight. Achievement of the Literacy unit at SCQF level 5 will also contribute to the Literacy measure on Insight. However, please note that if a student achieves both the National Course in English (A–D) and the SCQF level 5 Literacy unit they will only be recognised once on the Insight measure for Literacy.

## Common questions

The English common questions document has been revised and is now available on the [English subject page](#). Please note: the information from the performance–spoken language questions and answers document is now in the English common questions.

## Communication and Literature units

We have created and published an assessment support pack for the NQ units Communication (NC) (FA1W 12) and Literature 1 (FA58 12) at SCQF level 6. Many academic institutions accept the combination of these two units as an alternative to a pass at Higher English (grade C) for access to HN or degree level programmes.

This assessment support pack contains instruments of assessment, guidance and other useful information relating to internal assessment of these units. The pack can be downloaded from the NQ Group Award section of our secure website. Your SQA co-ordinator can provide login details to view these materials.

Verification activity for these units has been summarised in the [Qualification Verification Summary Report](#).

## Revision of National Qualification units

We are currently revising the following English-related stand-alone NQ units:

- ◆ Introduction to Literature (E9X7 10)
- ◆ Communication (NC) (EE3T 11)
- ◆ Creative Writing 1 (E9X5 10)
- ◆ Creative Writing 2 (D0YF 12)
- ◆ Oral Presentation Skills (D0N4 12)

These are old unit specifications which are predominantly delivered in the college sector. We are now in the process of updating and re-levelling them in order to better align them with other provision at SCQF levels 5 and 6.

These units will be available for delivery from August 2020 as part of a centre-devised course, on a stand-alone basis, or to supplement an existing course. Further updates will be available via Centre News.

# Advanced Higher

## Online resources to help you prepare for Advanced Higher assessment

As part of our Understanding Standards programme, we are providing a range of supportive resources to help you develop your understanding of the standards required in the revised course assessments for Advanced Higher. Please note: for English, the only change to the Advanced Higher course is an increased upper word limit for project–dissertation (2,500–3,500 words).

We have published an audio presentation which gives a summary of the course assessment. Candidate evidence on the Understanding Standards website covers all four course components.

You can access Understanding Standards materials via the 'Understanding Standards' tab on our [Advanced Higher subject page](#).

## Units that were previously part of the Advanced Higher courses

The units that were previously part of the Advanced Higher courses are now available as freestanding units at SCQF level 7. These units no longer contribute to the Advanced Higher courses. We have removed references to Advanced Higher courses from the freestanding unit specifications, which are available from the freestanding units web page for each subject. There is a link to the freestanding units page from the 'see also' section on the [subject landing page](#).

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Please contact our Customer Support Team:

**Tel:** 0303 333 0330

**Fax:** 0345 213 5000

**Email:** [mycentre@sqa.org.uk](mailto:mycentre@sqa.org.uk)