# National Qualifications

## Advanced Higher Modern Languages Performance–talking

### How to complete an STL form in session 2025–26: guidance for teachers and lecturers

This edition: October 2024

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#### Where can I find the STL form?

The form is available to view and download from the [Advanced Higher Modern Languages web page](https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/48456.html), under the ‘Visiting Examining’ tab.

#### Who completes it?

Candidates preparing for the performance–talking assessment must complete the STL form.

#### How should the form be completed?

The form should be completed **in English** and has two parts:

Part one is for Language, and candidates should list the context(s) and topics they have studied.

Key points to consider:

* There is no minimum number of topics and/or themes that candidates need to list, but they must provide enough detail to allow for meaningful discussion.
* It is not sufficient for candidates to provide a list of contexts (for example society, learning, employability, culture) without any further detail.
* Candidates must not include specific questions for the visiting assessor to ask.

Part two is for the Portfolio. Candidates should indicate the option they have studied for the portfolio — literature, media or language in work — the sources used and the focus of analysis.

Below is an example of an appropriately completed STL form:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Language: context(s), topics, themes studied** | |
| **Context(s)** | **Topics and/or themes** |
| Society **Learning** | The role of women in modern societyThe environmentThe internet and social media The importance of learning languages |
| **Portfolio** | |
| **Option studied: ~~literature~~ / media / ~~language in work~~ based study *(delete as appropriate)***  **Sources used to complete the portfolio:**  El Laberinto del Fauno, Guillermo del Toro  La Lengua de las Mariposas, Jose Luis Cuerda  **Focus of analysis:**  childhood and the loss of innocence | |

#### When must the STL form be submitted to SQA?

Youshould submit the completed form **no later than 23 January 2026**.

#### How do I submit the completed STL form?

You should email the completed forms to [visiting.examining@sqa.org.uk](mailto:visiting.examining@sqa.org.uk).

STL/AH forms for each modern language should be submitted in separate emails.

Please note: SQA only accepts forms that have been scanned into PDFs or Word documents. This allows teachers to monitor and check candidates’ submissions.

#### How does the visiting assessor use the information on the STL form?

The list of topics and/or themes, and contexts provides visiting assessors with advance information on likely areas of discussion with candidates.

Areas identified by the candidate serve as a starting point for discussion, and allow the candidate and the visiting assessor to have a framework for the assessment.

It is important to note that the performance–talking is not a presentation: it is an opportunity for candidates to give their opinions and views on aspects of the course.