

FOI Request (FOI 24-25 102)

Request:

Please release:

All communications sent to or from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] regarding the marking of Higher History in 2024. The time frame for this request is 1 April 2024 - present.

Response

From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@angusschools.org.uk>

Sent: Friday, May 3, 2024 4:48 PM

To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Higher Marking

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

I spoke to you at the Higher History assignment meeting on Monday about making the transition from National 5 marking Higher marking if possible.

If there was an opportunity to mark the question paper I would really appreciate the opportunity to do that.

Have a lovely weekend!

Many Thanks

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 9:16 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Info - markers sending marking back

Hi [REDACTED] Please see below x

Hi [REDACTED],

Been asking TLs to follow up on markers at the midday point. Most are going ok. Se below from [REDACTED], he seems to have more than his share of problem markers this year. I don't think this anything to do with him. He has been very supportive and keeping me in the loop. Just think he has been unlucky.

[REDACTED]

Date: 07/05/2024 20:14:54

From: [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],

I've put the detail below:

[REDACTED] - has told me she'll have her 50% in and done for tomorrow. It looks like she'll be on time.

[REDACTED] - has informed me she is sending her papers back, I've told her to make sure she gets in touch with script management.

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED]. He is working away but currently has 13/90 - so I will send him a message tomorrow to see how he is getting on.

[REDACTED] - has informed me she is sending her papers back, I've told her to make sure she gets in touch with script management.

The other one is [REDACTED] - she asked a lot of good questions during qualification and I think she would been fine. However there has been nothing put in, I will check in with her also.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 9:18 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Update from [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED], please see below. Told [REDACTED] that SQA know about [REDACTED] x

Hi [REDACTED], just so you have an overview - really just [REDACTED] scripts to redistribute. Do you think I need to chase this up?

[REDACTED]:

Just so you know it says on RMAssessor that [REDACTED] has not completed any Live scripts now. I have messaged him to ask about this. I will get back to you as soon as I hear from him.

Here is a run down of how my markers are doing:

All doing well except [REDACTED] who is only on 9. She did say she would be busy and she is a newer marker. I have sent a message to the group asking how they are doing, reminding of deadline and encouraging them to get in touch. I will reach out to her personally if I have not heard from her by tomorrow evening.

[REDACTED] - is still on my RMAssessor, I don't know if she has contacted script management or if her papers have been reallocated- will I be informed of this or do I need to flag this up to anyone? Anything you can tell me about protocol so I can ensure I am doing all I should would be appreciated.

[REDACTED]:

Everyone has passed qualification now.

[REDACTED] has disappeared and reappeared on my list throughout the course of the day. She says she has contacted both the marker e-helpline and marker reconciliation.

Progress (based on their script allocation approx) updated 6/5/24 PM:

[REDACTED] - 50%
[REDACTED] - 40% (says she has done 56%)
[REDACTED] - 36%
[REDACTED] - 26%
[REDACTED] - 42%
[REDACTED] - 62%
[REDACTED] - 51%
[REDACTED] - 61%

Me - I have uploaded about 30% and have two packs to upload tomorrow (62%)

[REDACTED]:

Hi [REDACTED], just looked again and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have started entering scores.

All have qualified already which is good.

██████████ and ██████████ have yet to input any scores thus far.

██████ who struggled through qualification has been asking the most questions, so it is good to see that she is keeping in touch.

██████:

Everyone on my team is through qualification and marking. ████████ only started to input marks this afternoon and has only marked 4 on the system so far. A few are almost or completely finished. I asked everyone yesterday to give me an update on how they're getting on if they've not already been in touch since the end of qualification and I've had a few updates back since then.

I input my last script this afternoon and everything is packed up and ready to be posted back, so I'll be returning my scripts either tomorrow or Wednesday depending on when I get can get to the Post Office.

██████:

All markers underway - qualified and entering marks.

So far, so good.

Cheers,

██████

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 9, 2024 10:22 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Higher History assignment

Hi [REDACTED], [REDACTED] says she is great and he worked with her last year in his role. She asks really good questions and in [REDACTED] view understands the standard.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Date: 09/05/2024 14:10 (GMT+00:00)
To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com
Subject: Higher History assignment

Hi [REDACTED]

Wondering if you could ask [REDACTED] about [REDACTED] qualification stage. I see she has been given extra scripts.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 3:29 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: History Higher marker check

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for letting me know, I have updated the EPSA and let the delivery team know.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 3:19 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: History Higher marker check

Hi [REDACTED]

We have now been informed that we have 300 unmarked scripts to be marked so we will need some computers to enter the marks into RM. So we will probably need around 11.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 11:49 AM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: History Higher marker check

Hi [REDACTED]

Yes, that's no problem.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 10:21 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: History Higher marker check

Hi [REDACTED]

This is MFP so we don't need computers apart from one for the PA to complete any 'paperwork'. However I am still waiting for script management to get back to me in case we have unmarked scripts so we might need some but I won't know until they respond. So can I get back to you?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 9:25 AM
To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: History Higher marker check

Morning [REDACTED]

For the History Higher marker check starting tomorrow, how many laptops are required? The EPSA currently has 19.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Operations – Logistics and Customer Engagement

Events Coordinator|Events Planning|Scottish Qualifications Authority|Lowden

 [redacted] | email: [redacted] [@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[redacted]@sqa.org.uk)

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 3:42 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Higher Eachdraidh Assignment translations complete

Hi [REDACTED]

Script management has now confirmed that the translations of the Higher Eachdraidh assignments have been printed and placed in the tubs ready for tomorrows marker check.

Le dùrachd,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 2:40 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Higher Eachdraidh Assignment translations complete

Thanks very much [REDACTED]. That would be great. I will look out for it.

Can I ask if script management colleagues are going to be involved in preparing the materials for the marker check event?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 2:36 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Higher Eachdraidh Assignment translations complete

Hi [REDACTED]

██████ has completed translations of the Higher Eachdraidh assignments and securely uploaded them to Sharepoint.

I have gone through them myself and I'm confident that he has made a very good job of them - one script was particularly tricky as the handwriting was very difficult to read.

I'll set up a Higher Eachdraidh Team and share the docs with you there.

Le dùrachd,

██████

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 4:19 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: FW: National 5 and Higher History 16th & 17th May

Hi [REDACTED]

I have obtained the latest figures for the weekend for N5 & Higher History, missing research sheets. Please see below.

The team will upload a spreadsheet to the MS Teams page, which should tally with the materials received from Script Management for these cases.

I have also asked about the process of identification of incorrectly classified exceptions and how these are administered, will keep you apprised of developments.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 3:52 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: National 5 and Higher History 16th & 17th May

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

H History

19 Exceptions raised.

3 raised incorrectly.

16 Exceptions going to the meeting.

7 Resource sheets received.

7 centres confirmed no resource sheet will be submitted.

2 centres still to respond.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 2:21 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: National 5 and Higher History 16th & 17th May

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
X837	76	03	History	Assignment (<i>Resource sheet</i>)	6 marks 30

Hi

Can you give me an indication of how many sheets, that were raised as missing exceptions, will be available this weekend for both levels for History?

Many thanks



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 3:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Higher History Re-assigned unmarked Assignments

Good afternoon,

The following individuals will be marking the Higher History unmarked question papers **at home**:

New Marker	Centre No.	Original Marker
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
------------	------------	------------

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please note these markers will be taking these scripts home. Please can RM Assessor be set-up, so that they can input the required data.

Many thanks and best regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Humanities, Care & Services – Qualifications Development Directorate

e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 10:42 AM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hi [REDACTED] I have just checked, this is a new two.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

✉: 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian, EH22 1FD
☎: 07900 678 425 | 📧: sarah.smith@sqa.org.uk 🌐: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 7:23 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Evening [REDACTED]

The two Higher assignments were translated in order that they could be marked by the PA. And this marking has been completed unless this is a further two assignment scripts?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 4:21:03 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hi both,

Hope you're well.

I am contacting you as today we took receipt of 1 packet amounting to 2 scripts of unmarked scripts for Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment).

Aware all procedures are running in close succession for these; therefore I was wondering if you had preferred senior team or markers to take these? We will then reach out to them to seek pledge, arrange delivery and return.

Any help would be much appreciated. Hopefully, we can work together to seek resolution.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

t: [REDACTED] e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk w: www.sqa.org.uk

Scottish Qualifications Authority

24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 8:49 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
<[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hi [REDACTED],

There are currently two candidates entered for Higher Eachdraidh, both from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (noted below).

These are the candidates we have scripts and translations for, for the assignment.

	Surname	Forename	ICN	Date of birth
1	[REDACTED]			
2	[REDACTED]			

Regards

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

t: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>
Scottish Qualifications Authority
24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:14 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hello,

Of course; [REDACTED] can you provide these please so this can be checked?

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

✉: 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian, EH22 1FD

☎: [REDACTED] | 📠: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk 🌐: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 4:26 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hi [REDACTED],

I have been sharing Higher Nuadh-eòlas and Eachdraidh scans that we received with our translator.

If you could you share with me the candidate numbers on the 2 assignment scripts you have, I can cross-ref this with what we have in our folder? I can then confirm with you if they are indeed ones we already have scan of.

I hope this will be helpful.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 3:48 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Apologies, when I said new I meant was unmarked. I have copied [REDACTED] from Script Management in to confirm if this is indeed new?

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

✉: 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian, EH22 1FD
☎: [REDACTED] | 📠: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk 🌐: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 2:08 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hi [REDACTED]

So do we have 4 Higher Eachdraidh candidates? I thought we had only two?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: Marking Support Management <MarkingSupportManagement@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 10:42 AM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED][sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>; Quroum Beg <Quroum.Beg@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hi [REDACTED] I have just checked, this is a new two.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

✉: 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian, EH22 1FD
☎: [REDACTED] | 📧: [REDACTED][@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk) 🌐: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED][sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 7:23 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED][@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED][@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>
Subject: Re: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Evening [REDACTED]

The two Higher assignments were translated in order that they could be marked by the PA. And this marking has been completed unless this is a further two assignment scripts?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 4:21:03 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment) Reallocation

Hi both,

Hope you're well.

I am contacting you as today we took receipt of 1 packet amounting to 2 scripts of unmarked scripts for Eachdraidh (History) Higher Obair (Assignment).

Aware all procedures are running in close succession for these; therefore I was wondering if you had preferred senior team or markers to take these? We will then reach out to them to seek pledge, arrange delivery and return.

Any help would be much appreciated. Hopefully, we can work together to seek resolution.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations
t: [REDACTED] e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk w: www.sqa.org.uk
Scottish Qualifications Authority
24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:38 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Higher History Paper 1 Realignment request

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

I can now confirm that marker [REDACTED] has now been withdrawn from marking X8727601 Eachdraidh (History) Higher Paipear 1 (Paper 1).

Thank you for your time, if there is anything else we can do to assist you don't hesitate to contact us back.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk **t:** [REDACTED] **w:** www.sqa.org.uk

Scottish Qualifications Authority
Lowden, 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD



June 2024

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 31 May 2024 16:46

Subject: History British, European and World History (Paper 1) Higher Markers' Meeting - 4.6.24

Dear colleague

This is a reminder about your remote Markers' Meeting for **History British, European and World History (Paper 1) Higher**. We look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday 4 June 2024** at **9.30am**.

Please find attached a document which has the links to all the Breakout Rooms. To go into a room just click on the link for that room. When you wish to move to another room, leave the room you are in and click on the link for the next room that you wish to go in to.

For ease here is the live link to join the meeting

Main Room

[Join the meeting now](#)

We have prepared some guidance and tutorial videos on SQA Academy to help you prepare for your remote Markers Meeting. Please follow the link to [SQA Academy Digital Markers Meetings](#).

SQA Academy enquires [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk

Materials will be available to view online on [RM Assessor](#) on 4 June 2024

Kind Regards,

Events Management

Please note: *The remote meeting and its contents are the property of SQA and subject to normal copyright protections. Live recording, circulation of transcripts or taking screenshots of content of the event is not permitted at any time.*

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 01 June 2024 11:30
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: FW: Withdrawn marker?

Good morning,

Just a courtesy email to let you know that marker [REDACTED] has withdrawn from marking History Higher QP1 and QP2.

Scripts are back here at Lowden for reallocation.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services
ext: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 02 June 2024 14:41
To: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Marker - must have sat somewhere else

Hi [REDACTED]

All TLs were asked to take a register at the meeting and as far as I am aware she did not attend the meeting. I have her on my register of non-attendees. I completed paperwork at the MM stating that she cannot mark.

So first thing, ask [REDACTED] to get confirmation that she did not attend.

If she says she did attend (and didn't register – and sat elsewhere, ask for the TL registers of the other tables to confirm if she sat elsewhere.

If she confirms she didn't attend, then ask [REDACTED] to tell her to return her scripts – she MUST NOT mark.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2024 1:34 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Marker - must have sat somewhere else

Hi [REDACTED] Did she sit at another table? If so will Stuart support her, even although he did not meet her?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],
See below from [REDACTED]. Do you have a list of those who did not show?
I have asked him to find out if she was there?
If not. I'll email her and explain that she cannot mark. And ask her to return her scripts.

[REDACTED]

Date: 01/06/2024 07:55:20

From: [REDACTED]
Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you're enjoying your social outings.

I have someone called [REDACTED] messaging me on RM Assessor, who is down as being in my team. However she was not sitting at my group during the meeting.

The person who also helps [REDACTED] (sorry I can't remember his name!) also came up to ask if [REDACTED] had appeared but she wasn't on my seating plan register that I took.

Not sure how to go forward with this, happy to help her with her queries but she definitely wasn't sitting in my group during the meeting. I wonder if she sat with the other [REDACTED]?

Any help welcomed

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Sent: 03 June 2024 13:20
To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Higher History Paper 2 Markers Meeting Attendance

Hi [REDACTED]

Here is communication from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]. He said that [REDACTED] came up with a list, but never asked him. Still not got to the bottom of table [REDACTED] at, but confident she was there as there has been communication. The other 3 def not there. Sorry, should have done a shout from the floor - just to double check!

Date: 01/06/2024 09:15:35

From: [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for all your help yesterday.

i was a bit confused by Q5

Q17 - I didn't give the recall as I thought it was too generic and didn't give enough of a Scottish explanation? Does the candidate get the propaganda mark as they mention it influenced Scots to enlist at the end? I also thought the wage one wasn't specific to Scotland - is this because Scotland was a low wage economy?

I was out by 3 for the explain question as I didn't give some of the points as the only referenced Scottish shipbuilding but did not give an example and I thought from the briefing and practice scripts that this was too generic? So is it ok as long as they reference Scotland?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 03 June 2024 13:30
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: History Higher QP Paper 1 and 2

Hi [REDACTED]

Hope you are well.

As the above has now been dispatched and the marking period starting, we would be looking to issue pledge emails to encourage those progressing well through marking to reach out mid-way through the marking period if they are able to accept more scripts.

To follow reallocation protocol, can you confirm who you wish to be contacted in the first instance as part of the pledge emails?

This will allow a proactive approach once we require to reallocate unmarked scripts returned during the marking period.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

✉: 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian, EH22 1FD

☎: [REDACTED] | 📧: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk 🌐: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>



From: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Sent: 04 June 2024 16:37
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Issue with QS 4

Hi [REDACTED]

I have emailed team leaders about this error. All sorted and glad it was spotted now. Rest are 100% correct.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 04 June 2024 15:27
To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>; [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Subject: FW: Issue with QS 4

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see below from [REDACTED]. I don't have a record of whose scripts this was?

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@yahoo.co.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 3:20 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Issue with QS 4

Hi [REDACTED]
I'll email [REDACTED] on RM Assessor too but on QS4 the mark on the system is for Q12 but the candidate actually answered q11 on the liberals so its automatically putting marks out of tolerance. Not sure if anything can be done at this stage?
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 June 2024 11:55
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Thanks [REDACTED] much appreciated.

Yes we were not aware of any errors in grammar and syntax, especially after the extent of QA and checking which took place prior to the day of the exam, and also in the aftermath, when no issues were raised elsewhere. We will investigate these specifically with the individual.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ùghdarras Theisteanais na h-Alba
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DQ

An Togalach Optima, 58 Sràid MhicDhonnchaidh, Glaschu G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 11:14 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Hi [REDACTED]

It sounds from the email below that this appointee has a small allocation of History scripts (MFP) but if she has not attended the Markers' Meeting, these will have to be returned unmarked. I will arrange this.

Reading through the email, I would share this appointee's concerns if there were indeed errors in grammar and syntax. However, I was not aware of any errors in translation. Would we be able to identify what these are in order to assess the issue this appointee raises of equity for the Gaelic learners?

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 June 2024 11:03
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Thanks [REDACTED],

Yes it's our understanding that [REDACTED] is marking N5, and that [REDACTED] is assisting with the translation of the 2 scripts for Higher, as per agreed policy.

Re: the scripts which [REDACTED] is going to be asked to return – are these the 9 English scripts which she refers to, and were they sent to her in hard copy?

The separate matter of errors in the QP is one which we will pick up separately as the QPs underwent significant scrutiny and validation, and no issues were raised at the time of the exam.

Thanks again,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DQ

An Togalach Optima, 58 Sràid MhicDhonnchaidh, Glaschu G2 8DQ



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 10:07 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Morning

I am afraid that this appointee is mistaken. N5 Eachdraidh scripts are indeed being marked by a Gàidhlig speaker.

It should also be noted that I am led to believe that the appointee below did not attend the Markers' Meeting yesterday and will therefore be unable to mark any History scripts sent. These should be returned.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 9:57 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email.

[REDACTED] and I are gathering a bit more information on this, will discuss further with [REDACTED] and draft a response.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DQ

An Togalach Optima, 58 Sràid MhicDhonnchaidh, Glaschu G2 8DQ



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 8:40 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: FW: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Hi [REDACTED]

Are you Ok to follow this up with the QM and get back to [REDACTED] or do you want me to do that?

Regards, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>
Scottish Qualifications Authority
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW G2 8DQ

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 11:42 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Fw: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Madainn mhath [REDACTED] and [REDACTED],

Our History teacher has sent me this information which if true is very concerning.

Could you please clarify if this is indeed the case and if so I would hope that this can be rectified and fluent Gàidhlig speakers who teach Eachdraidh shall be used to correct the GME scripts.

Mòran taing,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk>
Sent: 05 June 2024 11:25
To: [REDACTED]@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk>
Subject: Eachdraidh GME Marking concern

Hi [REDACTED],

I've just found out that none of us GME markers in Eachdraidh are marking the GME Eachdraidh this year. As you know I was sent 9 English History scripts and when I enquired if I was to receive further scripts in Gàidhlig I was informed that the Principal Assessor was going to mark them [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Considering the errors in the translation paper and the issue of equity and parity to our cohort this is a major concern.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 06 June 2024 12:45

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: 2024 Marking Reviews (Appeals) - [REDACTED] - Team Size Shortfall

Hello [REDACTED]

Hope you are well.

Further to below, would it be an option to add a small review period at home (18th – 27th of Sep.) for contingency purposes? That way, we could keep your team size at 14 as per your selections and any potential shortfalls would be covered.

As always, once actual submissions are known, we can revisit this.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Operations – Logistics & Customer Engagement

t: [REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED][@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)

w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 9:55 AM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk

Subject: RE: 2024 Marking Reviews (Appeals) - [REDACTED] - Team Size Shortfall

Hi [REDACTED]

I selected TLs or TLs/markers who will have experience of the assignment and the two question paper components this year. One or two TLs newly appointed this year were given a B marker grading after the assignment therefore you will understand that using these appointees would be a risk to the high-profile appeals process. Not all the appointees on the team list have experience of the three Higher components which will be reviewed as part of the appeals process.

I can revisit the list but may have to review once Marker Check has been completed.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk

Sent: Thursday, June 6, 2024 9:31 AM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk

Subject: 2024 Marking Reviews (Appeals) - [REDACTED] - Team Size Shortfall

Hello,

As previously advised, once throughput rates were signed off, initial plans for Marking Reviews (Appeals) would be revisited.

We have been advised that appointee numbers required need to be in line with what is projected.

For History Higher you have selected 14 appointees, however, the required number is 22.

Can you please revisit the team list and select appointees in line with the projected number.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Operations – Logistics and Customer Engagement

Events Coordinator|Events Planning|Scottish Qualifications Authority|Lowden

☎: [REDACTED] |email: [REDACTED] [@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 June 2024 12:54
Subject: X8377602 – History Higher Question Paper 2 – 25% Marking Target

Dear colleague,

Please note that we reached 25% of the marking duration for X8377602.

The current marking overview is shown below:

X8377602 History Scottish History

Marking Overview

Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
10507	10317	98.19%	0	53	449	1559	15.11%	MFP

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their teams.

Marking Support staff will also take steps to encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 07 June 2024 14:16
To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: H Classical Studies Assignment

Hi [REDACTED]

That's great. I've sent the spreadsheets to Script Management to organise to send these to the meeting or by Sunday or Monday if they can.

We will organise to send the History Assignments to the QP Marker Check meetings on 24th and 25th of June.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]
Assessment Arrangements

SQA
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 1:49 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: H Classical Studies Assignment

Hi [REDACTED]

That would be fine, even better if they could arrive Sun or Mon before the CM events begins as Tuesday will be the training day.

Can I ask about the Assignments with no Resource sheets for N5 History and Higher History.
Can these please arrive at the QP Marker Check events?

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Sent: 07 June 2024 14:52
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Marker withdrawn

Another busy weekend for you. Hope it goes well.

Yea pleased with paper 1 performance, so far! 😊

Hope you can get some time to relax

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 07 June 2024 14:47
To: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Marker withdrawn

Hi [REDACTED]

If she was struggling then I am sure that will be the reason. You can reserve your energy for other matters.

That's excellent news although I was thinking things were quiet which is usually good.

Happy marking. [REDACTED]

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 2:43 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Marker withdrawn

No problem, will find out.

Probably for the best. She was really struggling with QS and was getting a lot of support. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] was in touch with me with regard being concerned with her (due to contact from [REDACTED])

Many thanks for kind words 😊

Paper 1 going a lot better with regard QS. Seems very straight forward.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 June 2024 10:29
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Marker withdrawn

Hi [REDACTED]

For interest, can you find out the reason?

Hope all is going well. It was a great meeting. You were superb!

Cheers

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2024 7:53 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Marker withdrawn

Hi [REDACTED] please see below. Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED],

Just to let you know one of the markers on my team, [REDACTED] has decided to withdraw from marking.

I have advised her to let the SQA as soon as possible and return her scripts as soon as possible.

Take care,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>

Sent: 08 June 2024 07:57

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com

Subject: marker

Morning [REDACTED]

Please see below marking of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] A part from the script that she awarded 26, the rest seem ok, not great, but ok. What do you think? It would be hard to stop her? She is still on hold.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

See the message below from the marker I mentioned who had to have all her assignments remarked. [REDACTED] was very clear that if there was any issues we should stop her from marking. Her qualification results are below:

33 instead of 32

29/29, but 15 rather than 16, and 14 rather than 13.

34 instead of 33

34 instead of 31

26 instead of 31

25 instead of 22

She has been very reflective in her conversations and has identified what she has done wrong. I will leave this with you - please let me know what you want me to do next. I'll send her a holding e-mail just now.

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 09 June 2024 11:04
Subject: Marking Progress Update: X8727601 – Eachdraidh (History) Higher Eachdraidh Bhreatannach, Eorpach agus An t-Saoghail, 25% Marking Duration

Dear Colleague,

Please note that we reached 25% of the marking duration for X8727601.

The current marking overview is shown below:

Please select a component from the below dropdown								
X8727601 Eachdraidh (History) Eachdraidh, Bhreatannach, Eorpach agus An t-Saoghail								
Marking Overview								
Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
2	2	100.00%	2	0	0	0	0.00%	MFI

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their own teams.

Marking Support staff will also encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Please also note that the current situation regarding atypical scripts for this component is:

Please select your component:			
X8727601 Eachdraidh (History) Eachdraidh, Bhreatannach, Eorpach			

Atypical Scannables		
Total Number of Atypical Scannables	Total Marked	Total to be Marked
0	0	0

Atypical Unscannables		
Total Number of Atypical Unscannables	Total Marked	Total to be Marked
0	0	0

Kind regards,



Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 09 June 2024 11:55
Subject: X8377601 -History Higher British, European and World History -25% Marking Target

Dear Colleague,

Please note that we reached 25% of the marking duration for X8377601.

The current marking overview is shown below:

Please select a component from the below dropdown
X8377601 History British, European and World History

Marking Overview								
Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
10508	10346	98.46%	0	33	422	751	7.26%	MFP

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their teams.

Marking Support staff will also take steps to encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 09 June 2024 16:02
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Response to Glasgow Gaelic School

Hi again [REDACTED]

I had another think about this reply and thought it would be helpful for the centre to understand our contingency arrangement. I ran it past [REDACTED] and she's okayed it (thanks [REDACTED]) so if you're happy for me to send it on I'll do so today.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks again for getting in touch and passing on your and [REDACTED] shared concerns. We've investigated further with qualifications colleagues and can reassure you that N5 Eachdraidh marking is being undertaken by appropriately qualified member/s of the GM teaching profession – their personal details are confidential as that information is subject to GDPR legislation.

Should the situation arise of there being no markers available for any reason to mark a Gaelic-medium paper at a specific level, SQA operates the process (which is in line with processes followed by examining bodies elsewhere in the UK) whereby the script/s will be translated in an appropriate and supportive way, then marked by a senior exam team member. This is a rare occurrence but nevertheless the very low number of Gaelic-medium Markers is a continuing concern, and we are actively encouraging Gaelic-medium teachers to register for marking on an ongoing basis.

Regarding this year's Question Papers, they were - as in previous years - translated by a translation company with whom we work closely, to ensure that the language is accurate and that subject-specific terminology is translated consistently year-on-year. We also undertake further internal quality assurance on the papers, so I was concerned to hear that errors had been identified by [REDACTED], and would be

very grateful if information on these could be shared with us in order that we can raise this directly with the company and our Question Paper production colleagues to ensure that they don't recur.

I hope this is helpful, and happy to discuss further.

Dùrachdan,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ùghdarras Theisteanais na h-Alba
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DQ

An Togalach Optima, 58 Sràid MhicDhonnchaidh, Glaschu G2 8DQ



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, June 9, 2024 2:50 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Subject: RE: Response to Glasgow Gaelic School

Thanks [REDACTED] really appreciate your feedback here. We'll send on the reply shortly, which will hopefully provide reassurance to the centre.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DQ

An Togalach Optima, 58 Sràid MhicDhonnchaidh, Glaschu G2 8DQ



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Sunday, June 9, 2024 1:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Subject: FW: Response to Glasgow Gaelic School

Hi [REDACTED]

This response appears very appropriate to me. Regarding the highlighted section, this may not be necessary as the marker has been contacted asking for her allocation to be returned.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Humanities, Care & Services – Qualifications Development Directorate

t: [REDACTED] m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Sent: Saturday, June 8, 2024 1:27 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk
Subject: Response to Glasgow Gaelic School

Hi folks,

How does this look for a response to the [REDACTED]? Feel free to amend 😊

Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks again for getting in touch and passing on your and [REDACTED] shared concerns. We've investigated further with qualifications colleagues and can reassure you that N5 Eachdraidh marking is being undertaken by appropriately qualified member/s of the GM teaching profession – their personal details are confidential as that information is subject to GDPR legislation.

Regarding [REDACTED] marking allocation, I would suggest that she request further information from [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk) – for example if she had been unable to attend the Markers' Meeting, that would preclude her from being involved in Marking?

The Question Papers were translated by our translation company, with whom we work closely to ensure that their translation memory software can facilitate the translation of standardised subject-specific terminology year-on-year. It would be really useful if any errors which have been identified could be shared with us in order that we can raise this directly with the company and our Question Paper production colleagues to ensure that these don't recur.

I hope this is helpful, and happy to discuss further.

Dùrachdan,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ùghdarras Theisteanais na h-Alba
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DQ

An Togalach Optima, 58 Sràid MhicDhonnchaidh, Glaschu G2 8DQ



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 11 June 2024 10:17
Subject: Marking Progress Update: X8727602 – Eachdraidh (History) Higher Paipear 2 (Paper 2), 25% Marking Duration

Dear colleague,

Please note that we reached 25% of the marking duration for X8727602.

The current marking overview is shown below:

X8727602 Eachdraidh (History) Eachdriadh Albannach

Marking Overview								
Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
2	2	100.00%	2	0	0	0	0.00%	MFI

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their own teams.

Marking Support staff will also encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Please also note that the current situation regarding atypical scripts for this component is:

X8727602 Eachdraidh (History) Eachdriadh Albannach

Atypical Scannables		
Total Number of Atypical Scannables	Total Marked	Total to be Marked
0	0	0

Atypical Unscannables		
Total Number of Atypical Unscannables	Total Marked	Total to be Marked
0	0	0

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED]@[sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk) t: [REDACTED] w: www.sqa.org.uk

Scottish Qualifications Authority

Lowden, 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 12 June 2024 09:46
Subject: X8377602 – History Higher Question Paper 2 – 50% Marking Target

Dear colleague,

Please note that we reached 50% of the marking duration for X8377602.

The current marking overview is shown below:

X8377602 History Scottish History

Marking Overview

Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
10508	10268	97.72%	0	57	282	5723	55.74%	MFP

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their teams.

Marking Support staff will also take steps to encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk **t:** [REDACTED] **w:** www.sqa.org.uk

Scottish Qualifications Authority
Lowden, 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>
Sent: 12 June 2024 17:09

To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Re: Marker unable to mark

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you. That is so kind of you to say, and it means so much!

I am really enjoying the process and working with the markers 😊

Best,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 09 June 2024 09:58

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>

Subject: RE: Marker unable to mark

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the heads-up. Much appreciated. I think it would still be worth getting in touch to ask 'if she requires any guidance with returning her scripts'!

I was going to be messaging you, to say that I thought you were absolutely super at the remote MM on Tuesday 😊

Thanks again

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>

Sent: Saturday, June 8, 2024 10:23 AM

To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Marker unable to mark

Good morning [REDACTED]

I wanted to let you know that [REDACTED] has sent a message on RM this morning to say that she has been signed off work ill and won't be able to mark. She is getting in touch with script management to send her scripts back. Is there anything I can do? Should I message in a few days and check she has managed to send them or is that something script management will do? I don't want to pester her but just want to support if I can and make sure we get them back asap.

Thanks



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 13 June 2024 12:13
Subject: X8377601 – History Higher Question Paper 1 – 50% Marking Target

Dear colleague,

Please note that we reached 50% of the marking duration for X8377601.

The current marking overview is shown below:

X8377601 History British, European and World History

Marking Overview

Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
10508	10320	98.21%	0	65	684	3306	32.03%	MFP

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their teams.

Marking Support staff will also take steps to encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk **t:** [REDACTED] **w:** www.sqa.org.uk

Scottish Qualifications Authority
Lowden, 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD



From: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>

Sent: 17 June 2024 09:07

To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Morning

Hi [REDACTED]

Hope all well. Was wondering how to proceed with this?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

Hey [REDACTED]

Can you please advise, would this count for a PA referral if there is no script inside? Would we flag as 'missing' evidence?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 17 June 2024 10:41
Subject: X8377601 - History Higher Question Paper 1 – 75% Marking Target

Dear colleague,

Please note that we reached 75% of the marking duration for X8377601.

The current marking overview is shown below:

X8377601 History British, European and World History

Marking Overview								
Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
10508	10290	97.93%	0	51	451	6104	59.32%	MFP

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their teams.

Marking Support staff will also take steps to encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 17 June 2024 10:45
Subject: X8377602 – History Higher Question Paper 2 – 75% Marking Target

Dear colleague,

Please note that we reached 75% of the marking duration for X8377602.

The current marking overview is shown below:

X8377602 History Scottish History

Marking Overview

Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
10508	10256	97.60%	0	40	416	7371	71.87%	MFP

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their teams.

Marking Support staff will also take steps to encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 18 June 2024 09:54

Subject: Marking Progress Update: X8727601 – Eachdraidh (History) Higher Paipear 1 (Paper 1), 75% Marking Duration

Dear colleague,

Please note that we reached 75% of the marking duration for X8727601.

The current marking overview is shown below:

X8727601 Eachdraidh (History) Eachdraidh, Bhreatannach, Eorpach agus An t-Saoghail

Marking Overview

Candidates Expected Total	Candidate Received Script	Candidate Received Scripts/Expected	Total Unallocated	Total In Progress	Total Pending	Total Closed	Total Closed/Total Received	Marking Type
2	2	100.00%	2	0	0	0	0.00%	MF1

We are relying on Senior Teams to ensure that marking is on track and emphasising the importance of keeping to marking deadlines to their own teams.

Marking Support staff will also encourage adherence to targets and provide any additional assistance/guidance required. We continue to rely on your support.

Please also note that the current situation regarding atypical scripts for this component is:

X8727601 Eachdraidh (History) Eachdraidh, Bhreatannach, Eorpach

Atypical Scannables

Total Number of Atypical Scannables	Total Marked	Total to be Marked
0	0	0

Atypical Unscannables

Total Number of Atypical Unscannables	Total Marked	Total to be Marked
0	0	0

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marking Support - Marking Progress Pillar

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk) t: [REDACTED] w: www.sqa.org.uk

Scottish Qualifications Authority

Lowden, 24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 27 June 2024 13:12
To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Request for scripts Higher History Paper 2 Marker Check

Hi [REDACTED]

There were 6 packets for marker code 42319 sent to maker check and marker code 41480 had 3 packets sent. We have received the rest of 42480 allocation and can send additional packets if you require.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Script Management

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

t: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>
Scottish Qualifications Authority
24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD



From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 9:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Request for scripts Higher History Paper 2 Marker Check

Morning

We don't appear to have scripts for the two markers in the attached. Could this possibly be checked and any scripts sent through to Optima so we can close the Paper 2 Marker Check?

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Humanities, Care & Services – Qualifications Development Directorate

t: [REDACTED] m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED] [sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk) | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 04 July 2024 10:09

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Re: History Completion

FYI on updated numbers from this morning -

- Nat 5 we have 130 across 2 components (126 for Comp 1 and 4 for Comp 2)
- Higher we have 125 across 3 components (71 for Comp 1, 35 for Comp 2 and 19 for Comp 3)

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 04 July 2024 14:59

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: History Completion

Hi [REDACTED],

I have been speaking with [REDACTED] and some of her senior team at Awarding Meetings this week. All will be in hand and there will be no need to implement any contingency plans to complete the marking of the scripts along with Finalisation.

Thanks.

[REDACTED]



Head of Humanities, Care & Services | Ceannard nan Daonnachdan, Cùram & Sheirbheisean
Qualifications Development

m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ùghdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW, G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 04 July 2024 10:01

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Re: History Completion

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your email.

Could I ask if it would be possible to reach out to the PA/DPA and marking team to check on these numbers? If there is to be any impacts on finalisation, I'd prefer we knew as soon as possible so we can implement any contingencies available to us as soon as possible.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 04 July 2024 09:59

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: History Completion

Hi [REDACTED]

On Tuesday I was made aware that there were 4 packets (36 scripts) for Nat 5 and 1 pack (10 scripts) for Higher highlighted as unmarked. With support from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in SM we arranged for these unmarked scripts to be delivered to appointees with a deadline of this coming weekend.

As far as I am aware, the figures below may relate to scripts which have been allocated and are still to be returned. If this is not the case, then at this stage any outstanding scripts will have to be delivered to the relevant finalisation events although this may have an impact on the priority lists we can ask to be pulled.

Many thanks for the update.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>

Sent: Wednesday, July 3, 2024 2:12 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>; [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>

Subject: History Completion

Hi [REDACTED],

I spoke to [REDACTED] in DS today, he's gave me the below numbers of unmarked scripts remaining, however, important to note that these may be on their way back into SQA.

Just wanted to double check with yourselves and see if you know that these are outlying, if we need to make any additional plans to finish these off at all, or if they're just awaiting their return.

- Nat 5 we have 150 across 2 components (146 for Comp 1 and 4 for Comp 2)
- Higher we have 184 across 3 components (95 for Comp 1, 69 for Comp 2 and 20 for Comp 3)

Total of 334 scripts across both levels outlying.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Operations – Planning and Process Improvement

t: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)> | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson St, Glasgow G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 04 July 2024 15:51

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: History H Finalisation

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks , will take care of this .

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 3:48 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: History H Finalisation

Hi [REDACTED]

Could we possibly pull the lot for H History? Priority 12 (1261).

Thanks once again.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 2:58 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: History H Finalisation

Hello [REDACTED]

Please see attached Priority and script total figures for History H Finalisation. Could you please let me know which Priority you would like us to pull to.

A quick response would be appreciated to allow for pulling cards to be printed.

Kindest regards.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NQ Delivery: Assessment & Data Services, Operations

t: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>

Sent: 05 July 2024 17:25

To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: GB

Hi [REDACTED]

Although Mark's for the assignment were good, we should perhaps make some consideration with regard teachers preparing students for the first time since 2019 and candidates writing such an extended response for the first time. (although structure and skills follows class essays, it was still new and more demanding than completing 2 essays)

Also, the profession did struggle with preparing candidates for the assignment and found the process more difficult than in the years before 2019. I also found this with my own candidates.

Teachers had to spend a greater amount of time on the assignment which perhaps led to less time on the scottish paper than in previous years when there was no assignment.

Just some thoughts

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 06 July 2024 15:22

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: H History

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for chatting today. Thank you for working so hard at a resolution.

The breakdown with a drop of 2 at each GB would be:

Band	Min Mark	Cumulative %	Cumulative Candidates
A1	91	2.1%	215
A2	75	22.8%	2278
B3	69	34.6%	3462
B4	64	44.9%	4496
C5	58	56.0%	5599
C6	53	64.7%	6472
D7	42	80.9%	8093
8	31	92.1%	9217
9	0	100%	10006

Please let me know that you and [REDACTED] are happy to proceed along these lines and I will get everything moving. Availability for Monday morning would be great as well.

Thanks again!!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Qualifications Development

m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ughdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW, G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 08 July 2024 19:46
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Higher History Band Changes

Hi [REDACTED]

As a result of the Grade Boundary change, there are 18 EEC learners whose Original Band displayed on the EEC System, will now be incorrect. Unfortunately, there is no way for us to have this changed before your EEC event starts.

I have attached a spreadsheet containing the affected learners and highlighted their new band (after the grade boundary change) in blue. Can you please pass this information on to your EC markers.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Assessment Arrangements

Quality Assurance (NQ), Operations

t: [REDACTED] | m: [REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>
Scottish Qualifications Authority
24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 10 July 2024 12:58
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Huge Thanks!!

Good afternoon,

I just wanted to reach out to thank you for all your hard work in getting the Priority scripts pulled so quickly for Higher History Finalisation. The team were kept busy and not left waiting because of your hard work after the late update to the Grade Boundaries for the subject. This has resulted in no extra contingency days being required, which is appreciated by all.

Thank you again!

Best,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Qualifications Development

m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>
Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ughdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW, G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 10 July 2024 13:00
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: History H Finalisation

Excellent – sounds great!! Thanks for the update.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Qualifications Development

m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>
Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ughdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW, G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 12:59 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: History H Finalisation

Hi [REDACTED]

Progress update!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Higher History are onto Priority 8 and all 59 unmarked scripts have been marked although the PA had to mark another 12 scripts which came through as PA referrals as the marker didn't know the topic – utterly ridiculous. I am working mostly with the EECC team, and they will finish these by the end of the day. We are anticipating that the whole event will finish at a decent time tomorrow.

The short answer to your question is that all is going well [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 12:41 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: History H Finalisation

Hi [REDACTED]

They did indeed – I have been in Lowden all week and have been getting the updates from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I have thanked them both, but I will send on a general thanks to Script Man.

How is it all going there?

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Qualifications Development

m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>
Scottish Qualifications Authority | Ùghdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW, G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 12:40 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: FW: History H Finalisation

Hi [REDACTED]

As mentioned, could you possibly send a little note of thanks? All the priority lists actually got to us

yesterday afternoon so it looked like they pulled out all the stops.

Thanks



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 10 July 2024 14:04
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: Appeals

Hi [REDACTED]

I think that sounds perfect. I totally understand your approach to all this. I know your team will get through the work. But as always, Ops want to plan in order to cover everything on paper. Your suggestion sounds perfect and I will also let [REDACTED] know that if less are required once we know numbers, they will be the first to be cut.

Thanks for helping to move this along. We can address the commitment of the team at another time if you think it's worth discussing.

Thanks again.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 1:37:50 PM
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Appeals

Hi [REDACTED],

Your suggestions sound totally reasonable. I know I have to put aside reservations re examiners vs markers, given that many N5 TLs are not committing, for one reason or another, to the full suite of post exam procedures. Some may be waiting permission from HTs for the Appeals event, but I have been a little concerned this year about the number of (TL) refusals at this level.

I will ask for the EX58 for the N5 QP. Marker gradings for the assignment are on PA News so I will identify markers with excellent scorings for Ops to invite. Is that fair enough? I would like to limit the number of people invited who then may be told they are no longer required; in case they are disappointed.

And have a hybrid event, although we would aim to complete all reviews at the face-to-face.

If you are ok with that, I will follow this up today.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>

Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 12:58 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@sqa.org.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk)>

Subject: Appeals

Hi [REDACTED]

I was wondering about a possible solution to the Appointee selection issue you are having with Ops putting pressure on you to meet the target of 16.

I believe we are still waiting to hear back from a number of invited TLs that can mark both components – is that correct? Like you, I am not comfortable inviting TLs that have only marked one component, however, a couple of proposals:

1. Invite some excellent TLs who cover one component and double bank them with STLs covering both (for physical event only).
2. Ask Ops to send out letter to ONLY excellent A-Marks who mark both components this year and ask for their acceptance for Appeals as we **MIGHT** require them depending on the volume. We can then stand them down as we hear from the TLs that are probably on holiday and haven't replied or as we finalise the appeals numbers and don't require all 16 Appointees.

Thoughts? I am just keen to get them off our backs, and I am no doubt going to be questioned on it tomorrow morning by [REDACTED]

Let me know what you think.

Thanks!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 23 July 2024 09:43

To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: History Higher Assignment Marker Grading Query

Hello [REDACTED],

We have a query regarding the grading of a marker for History Higher Assignment that we some clarification on. There is a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (Marker code 98629), who has been left ungraded, but on the form in the EX58 folder, there is a "remark" comment, but also the box noting their marking was acceptable is ticked. Could you please clarify this and grade them appropriately?

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Appointee Management

[REDACTED]

Appointee Management, People Directorate

e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

24 Wester Shawfair, DALKEITH, Midlothian EH22 1FD

From: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>

Sent: 20 August 2024 14:43

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Re: URGENT Higher History P2

Hi [REDACTED]

Here is the key point from my power point which i would have changed and the only point I would have changed:

"Another reason was that Scots banned Indian traditions such as suttee, in which a wife would throw herself on her dead husband's burning funeral pyre."

This was not awarded as it does not mention a specific Scot, James Ramsay (Marquis of Dalhousie) who as Governor-General of India (1848-1854) pursued this policy.

What i should have said here was that it did not show an impact for the action carried out by a Scot. I should have then shown the following point:

Another reason is because Scots banned the practices of Sutti and Thuggi in india. This is when the husband dies the wife gets buried alive. This has positively impacted Indias as now innocent lives are being spared stopping unnecessary deaths.

Examples used in previous understanding standards always give explained points (the ones currently on show in the paper 2 understanding standard materials.

We never awarded the most famous women in Austrillia last year who was on a dollar bill as they never told us the impact she had.

What i should have highlighted was points when the candidates can still get marks from explaining the impact. We have always said we do need named examples but maybe that slide was too much, I dont believe it would have made that much difference as the other points are clear.

Here are examples from other papers used

Explain the reasons why William Wallace and Scottish resistance was important between 1297 – 1305.

One reason why William Wallace and Scottish resistance were important was victory at the battle of Stirling Bridge over the English army. This was significant as it proved the military

capabilities of Wallace and Andrew Murray as a leader and signalled to Edward that Scotland as a country wasn't his subject and would fight back against tyranny.

Another reason was that Wallace was named Guardian of Scotland after victory at Stirling Bridge. This was important as it now gave the Scots a leader who they respected and looked up to. Whilst also giving the country a figure head with experience of defeating the English on the battle field.

Explain the reasons for the difficult relationship between monarch and Kirk in the reign of James VI.

James VI introduced the Black Acts. This made the relationship difficult as the Black acts asserted the Kings power over the Kirk and gave the king power to appoint bishops. This made the relationship difficult as it highlighted the conflicting views as the kirk thought the monarch shouldn't have any control.

James also banned hard-line presbyterian Andrew Melville from attending the General Assembly. This caused difficulties in the relationship as the prominent Presbyterians felt that they were being silenced and that the king had far too much control due to him picking and choosing who attended the General Assembly, thus causing difficulties.

Explain the reasons for the passing of the Act of Union by the Scottish Parliament.

Another reason as to why union was passed in the Scottish parliament was bribery. The parliament provided a sum of £20,00 to bribe people in Scottish parliament to vote for union. This was responsible in getting many voters who were on the fence at the time to finally side with union.

Explain the reasons why Scots had an impact on the empire.

Another impact is people like John MacArthur who set up Merone sheep farms in Australia. At the time he was the biggest exporter of merino sheep wool in the world which helped to contribute to Australia's economy.

Another reason is because Scots banned the practices of Sutti and Thuggi in india. This is when the husband dies the wife gets buried alive. This has positively impacted Indias as now innocent lives are being spared stopping unnecessary deaths.

Explain the reasons why the war had an impact on Scottish industry and the economy.

Another impact the war had on Scottish industry was there was a demand for Jute to make sandbags which were necessary for building trenches. This is supported by the fact that there were 69 Jute factories in Dundee during the war.

Another impact the war had on Scottish industry was increased demand for wool as it was necessary for making uniforms for soldiers. This is supported by the fact that the government bought all the wool in Scotland in 1917.

During the war the central belt of Glasgow produced 90% of armoured plates. This showed impact of Scottish industry and economy as it showed many factories became big roles in producing things for the war.

Another reason why the Great War had an impact on Scottish industry and the economy was because the army brought all wool sheared farmers and shepherds saw an increase in profits as they had guaranteed sales.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 20 August 2024 13:18

To: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>; [REDACTED]@sqa-ext.org.uk>

Subject: URGENT Higher History P2

Hi [REDACTED]

I wondered if you wanted to comment on any of the questions below so that the correct message is communicated / a chance to set the record straight.

Thank you!

The questions are being asked by the Herald and a response is required by this afternoon!!

Folks - we have lengthy query in from the Herald re. the approach taken to marking this year's Higher History papers. I'll note it below...

From the Herald

I have been approached by, and spoken to, a number of Higher History teachers and markers who insist that there is a major issue with the way in which the Higher History paper 2 was marked this year.

On checking the component scores for Paper 2, I can see that the mean mark was just 15.2 out of 36 (42%), which is astonishingly low. Indeed, it represents a massive 26.2% decline on the previous year.

The teachers commenting on this - some of whom currently mark for the SQA and marked the papers in question - say that this has happened because of a subtle difference in the application of the marking standards.

Specifically, they say that answers that would have been accepted last year were rejected this year because they were missing particular detail. So for example, this is from the 2023 marking instructions:

• James Dalhousie used his time as Governor General of India (1848-1856) to ban practices of suttee (human sacrifice) and thuggee (ritual murder). The outlaw of such practices was not welcomed by some Indian people

What I have been told is that in the past students would not have had to have explicitly stated the name of the Governor. The question asks about "the impact of Scots emigrants on the empire" so it was enough to be able to make the broad point about the impact without needing to know an individual name.

However, this year, markers have told me that they were instructed that students would have to name the governor to get the mark.

This information has come from people who marked in both 2024 and 2023, and I have spoken to people with detailed knowledge of the full marking process, including the standardisation meetings.

The result of this change, according to teachers, is the incredibly low average score for paper 2, and the overall fall of the Higher pass rate by 13 percentage points. They are particularly angry because the change has happened not just after the course was taught, but after the exam took place, and they were not made aware that their students would need to be more specific to get the marks this year.

This looks very much like a simple difference of interpretation of the marking instructions, rather than a change to the course documents or intended exam standard, but it is one that has led to a major impact on pupils.

Some have suggested that the problem may have been caused by the appointment of a new principal assessor, or the involvement of inexperienced individuals.

I should also point out that these teachers insisted on speaking to me anonymously and do not have the confidence to speak publicly about this because they believe that the SQA will seek to punish them for speaking out.

- Would the SQA be able to explain why the marking approach was altered so that students had to be more specific than previously in order to achieve the marks for a given question?
- Did this happen during the standardisation process, or had it already been decided prior to those meetings taking place?
- When the SQA realised that the average score for Paper 2 was so low, what action - if any - was taken?

From: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Sent: 20 August 2024 16:13
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: URGENT Higher History P2

Yea that looks fine 😊

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 20 August 2024 15:46
To: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Subject: RE: URGENT Higher History P2

Thanks very much [REDACTED] and thank you also for your call 😊

We will put out a very high-level response but just for the information of internal colleagues, is this accurate?

[REDACTED]

The individual inciting markers to contact the Herald about an alteration in the marking approach appears to be basing this assertion on one example of a knowledge point used at the Markers' Meetings for training purposes.

James Dalhousie used his time as Governor General of India (1848-1856) to ban practices of suttee (human sacrifice) and thuggee (ritual murder). The outlaw of such practices was not welcomed by some Indian people

This example of a knowledge point (which was not awarded) also does not mention a clear impact of Scots emigrants on the empire

Below is an example of a knowledge point which was awarded

Another reason is because Scots banned the practices of Sutti and Thuggi in India. This is when the husband dies the wife gets buried alive. This has positively impacted India as now innocent lives are being spared stopping unnecessary deaths.

This second example does not mention a specific Scot, but it does give provide an impact in response to the question Explain the reasons why Scots had an impact on the empire.

However, the cited example of a knowledge relates only to one question in one out of the five optional sections.

At Higher level, knowledge points are expected to be detailed and used in response to the question.

Previous course reports, for example, 2022 and 2023 have advised that teachers and lecturers should prepare candidates with specific Scottish historical knowledge for the Higher Scottish history question paper.

From: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Sent: 20 August 2024 16:59
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Re: URGENT Higher History P2

Yes, as long as you are

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 20 August 2024 16:19
To: [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Subject: RE: URGENT Higher History P2

Hi [REDACTED]

We are going with:

The marking approach in 2024 was consistent with previous years, and we applied our well-established approach. At Higher level, knowledge points are expected to be detailed and used in response to the question.

Comfortable with that?

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 21 August 2024 09:49

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;
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[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;
<[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>;
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Media coverage - The Herald - Higher History

Good morning,

Just to highlight the attached article from the Herald on History Higher marking on p.10 -
Teachers hit out at SQA over 'unfair' exam marking in Higher History as pass rate plunges -
the response we issued yesterday has been used.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk| **w:** <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW G2 8DQ

☎: [REDACTED] | email: [REDACTED]@sga.org.uk

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 29 August 2024 16:12

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: FW: SQA History Higher

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>

Sent: Friday, August 23, 2024 10:37 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Re: SQA History Higher

Good evening ,

As I stated in my marker report, I felt that candidates had difficulty accessing source points in the Paper 2 element of the exam. For example, Q4 in the Migration and Empire unit (How Fully) was poorly answered across the board and many candidates' recall points were from topic 3 (Impact of Scots abroad), not topic 4.

The 2 source question in the Migration and Empire unit (Q2-Reaction of Scots to Irish immigrants) was not answered well. Given the fact that the course specification clearly states that questions would only ask about Irish / Lithuanians / Italians etc, candidates were clearly taken aback when they saw a question on the reaction of Scots to Irish immigrants. In previous years, candidates would be asked about 'The reaction of Scots to immigrants', NOT 'The reaction of Scots to Irish'; the latter narrows it down so much that, as a marker, it was clear that recalled knowledge was limited for candidates.

Perhaps clearer guidance on the wording of questions should be put on the course specification for future years. For example, in previous years the course specification stated that questions on assimilation of immigrants OR reaction to immigrants could be expected. However, the course specification only mentions Irish / Italians etc. Hence, it would appear that possible questions would only be about Irish and NOT about the reaction to immigrants / assimilation of immigrants.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 29 August 2024 16:14

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: FW: SQA History Higher

From: [REDACTED]@googlemail.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 29, 2024 12:13 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Fwd: SQA History Higher

Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks for your email below re Higher History. I have marked Higher History since 2010.

I have submitted Markers reports for all three elements (Assignment, Paper 1 and Paper 2), and outlined there that I felt the marking was harsh this year compared to the last few years, with changes being made that weren't communicated before hand.

I am concerned about the 13% national drop in attainment, especially as that hasn't been replicated across other subjects, and especially the drop in performance of Paper 2 in particular, but also the drop in Paper 1, which I think is down to the changes that were made by the marking team.

Our subject leader network is meeting soon so that we can discuss performance across schools in our LA over the last few years, with a view to submitting a response on behalf of us all as teachers.

There may be a reluctance for individual markers to get in touch directly due to not being asked to return as a marker/appointee in next year's diet.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: 02 September 2024 08:54

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: FW: SQA History Higher

From: [REDACTED]@outlook.com>

Sent: Sunday, September 1, 2024 5:28 PM

To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: SQA History Higher

Dear [REDACTED],

I write in response to your email asking for additional comments not included in my Markers Report. I marked Higher paper 1 and completed a Markers Report and have no further comments to add in this section. However, I wish to take this opportunity to express my personal concerns regarding the results our school received in this year's Higher History diet paper 2.

Component marks have enabled us to see the impact of different sections of the exam.

- Paper 1 and Assignment marks gave us a 100% pass rate in each element with a healthy distribution within different bands.
- Paper 2 marks were concerning because our pass rate dropped to 29%. (only 17/58 pupils passed this element)

The overall impact of this was that 66% (38/58) pupils had their grade negatively affected by Paper 2 and dropped a band or more. This is not consistent with previous years. In the 2023 diet our paper 2 marks pass rate was 66% which were consistent with Paper 1 marks. This suggested to us that we were delivering the course to SQA standards while also recognising areas for improvement. Deeper analysis of marking packs suggests that candidates in certain packs were potentially 'harshly marked' more so than other packs.

Until this year we believe we understood the standards set by the SQA. We took account of the changes in the Course Specification, have engaged with Understanding Standards workshops and used examples from the SQA.

I am an experienced marker and practitioner who engages fully in all SQA guidance and understanding standards material available. The students I presented this year

were well prepared in accordance to this including recent changes in the Course Specification.

However, I am somewhat lost as to where we went wrong this year and how so many of this year's cohort failed paper 2. This has damaged the morale of the department. Pupils are now questioning if they can be successful in Higher History compared to other social subjects where success seems more straightforward.

I have read in detail the recently uploaded marking instructions for 2024 paper 2. I immediately noticed that 'possible comment' contains significantly more exemplification than previous years. I am unsure if this is extra guidance for the marker or an expectation of a candidate's response. If it's the latter, it goes somewhat to explaining the concerns raised.

I look forward to reading the Course Reports when published and understanding standard examples in due course. I will strive to rebuild confidence in the subject. I have been on the waiting list to mark paper 2 for a few years now, perhaps if I am offered an appointment this would help us meet the standards more effectively.

I would be grateful if my comments are passed to the PA and Qualification Manager.

Kind Regards,



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 05 September 2024 16:18
To: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: MEDIA QUERY - The Herald - Higher History

Folks – thanks for the info – I’ve had a quick attempt at distilling it down a little.

See what you think...

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DRAFT RESPONSE

A SQA spokesperson said: “There were no changes to the general marking principles and marking instructions for either the assignment or the question papers for the Higher History course in 2024.

“More information, and context was provided in the marking instructions to support markers who may have not be familiar with all the contexts within the Higher Scottish History paper.

“The marking instructions for Higher History have been commented on favourably due to the additional support provided to markers.

“All Higher History markers were written to and asked for any further comments around the Scottish History paper, and we received a very small number of responses. We also revisited the original Markers’ Reports that are analysed as part of the awarding process, and again very few markers raised anything about marking standards. After the Markers’ Briefing, the Markers’ Report is the place for SQA appointees to raise any issues.

“The marking instructions for all this year's National Qualifications were published on the SQA website on August 30. A technical issue meant that there was a small delay in the Higher History marking instructions being available. This was swiftly resolved.”

BACKGROUND

- SQA markers are aware that the level of detail in the marking instructions or exact wording is not required to obtain marks. This is clearly explained at Markers' Briefings through exemplification which includes Briefings and Practice scripts which are real examples of candidate responses.
- The marking instructions for all levels of History provide possible responses only. In response to practitioner feedback, senior appointees involved in the creation of History assessments endeavour to provide parity of detail in the marking instructions across the different historical contexts, in fairness to all learners studying History.
- The example cited in your query contains possible responses to questions on different historical content and as markers are aware, both columns form part of a candidate's possible answer. Some candidates write more for the Key Point while others write more as Explanation. This is exemplified in the marking instructions across the historical contexts.
- It is also important to note that the Examining Team did not report concerns about the marking instructions being raised by Markers within the discussion groups at the Markers' Briefing.

ENDS

+++++

Regards,

■

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2024 1:58 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: MEDIA QUERY - The Herald - Higher History

Importance: High

Folks – query in from The Herald – looking at a **4.30pm internal deadline** (we'll need to sight Fiona with the reply in advance of it being issued too) – reporter is now citing differences in the explanations of the Key Points in the MIs from 2023, and 2024 (see below).

Reporter is asking if our position remains the same, considering current markers saying otherwise. Reporter is also asking if we have conducted any form of investigation.

■■■■■ – is there any specific information you can provide in response to the points being raised? Are these 'normal' year on year differences, or has there been anything else which accounts for the differences?

■■■■■ – is it accurate to say that you wrote to our history markers off the back of the previous story and asked them to raise any concerns. Did anyone come forward?

Re. the point on the QP / MI upload, we'll restate the point that it was a technical issue.

Grateful if you could review this as soon as possible.

■

From: ■■■■■@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2024 12:31 PM
To: ■■■■■@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Higher History 2024

Good afternoon.

I have been following up our reporting regarding the marking of the Higher History paper in 2024. Since our initial coverage, I have been contacted by more teachers stating that the standard for 2024 is different from that in 2023 and that pupils were directly disadvantaged. As before, this is coming from people who were SQA markers this year and who have told me directly about the change in approach.

With the marking instructions now released, people have gotten in touch to point out instances where they say there are clear signs of the changes that have happened. One of these can be seen below.

Given that I'm being told of young people who have been seriously affected by this, we are planning further coverage, including around the publication of the marking instructions (and the

fact that the Higher History MI was affected by an apparent technical issue that meant it wasn't actually published properly when the other papers went online).

Is the SQA position still that there were absolutely no changes to the marking standard between 2023 and 2024, despite the fact that teachers - **including current SQA markers** - are directly stating otherwise, and despite the fact that the marking instructions show a great level of detailed now required (again, this has been confirmed to me by current History teacher and current SQA markers).

Furthermore, has the SQA actually carried out any sort of investigation into these claims or did it simply reject them out of hand? A number of people contacting me say that they cannot understand why the SQA would not take these concerns seriously and engage with teachers about them, and feel like the attitude being displayed is emblematic of the SQA as an organisation.

Thank you.

Marking Instruction differences for Higher History

2023 – Explain the reasons why immigrants in Scotland had varied experiences – 8 marks

14.	<p>Candidates can gain up to a maximum of 8 marks.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for each accurate relevant reason given.</p> <p>Possible reasons:</p>
Key point	Explanation
Lithuanians changed their name to Scottish sounding names.	This led to Lithuanians being more accepted into Scottish society.
It was believed that Lithuanians were introduced into the coal mines to break strikes.	This led to Lithuanians facing hostility from some Scots.
Lithuanians often lived in their own communities retaining language, culture and identity.	Many Lithuanians failed to assimilate into Scottish society.
Many Irish immigrants came to Scotland in poverty and were often perceived as carrying diseases.	Many Scots were repelled by the poverty of Irish immigrants leading to isolation.
Development of Catholic organisations such as Celtic Football Club allowed Irish immigrants to develop their own distinct Catholic community.	This allowed Irish Catholics to feel a sense of belonging in a strange country.
In the 1920s the Church of Scotland became overtly hostile to Roman Catholicism.	This made it difficult for Irish Catholics to be accepted by the Scottish people who were predominantly Protestant.
Protestant Irish shared the same religion as the majority of Scots.	It was much easier for Protestant Irish to be integrated into Scottish society.
Some Italians faced prejudice for example nicknamed 'tallies'.	This resulted in some Italians having a negative experience in Scotland.
Italians provided a service, for example, through cafés, ice cream parlours, fish and chip shops.	Italians were accepted as Scots enjoyed Italian immigrants' catering.
Italians opened their cafés on a Sunday.	Scots resented this as Sunday was viewed as a day of rest.

2024 – Explain the reasons why Scots had an impact on the empire – 8 marks

15.	<p>Candidates can gain up to a maximum of 8 marks.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for each accurate relevant reason given.</p> <p>Possible reasons:</p>														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="805 336 925 369">Key point</th><th data-bbox="925 336 1343 369">Explanation</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="805 369 925 481">Scots had a considerable impact on the economy of Australia.</td><td data-bbox="925 369 1343 481">Scots worked in remote settlements introducing new farming techniques learned on Lowland farms and Highland crofts. Scots were heavily involved in the development of industry, particularly coal mining, engineering and shipping, for example, James and Alexander Brown established highly successful coal mines in Newcastle, New South Wales.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="805 481 925 604">Scots contributed to the economy of Canada.</td><td data-bbox="925 481 1343 604">Scots dominated the Hudson Bay Company and Scots dominated in textiles, furniture making, oil, iron and steel. Highlanders who had been cleared off their land often emigrated to Canada where they developed agriculture on the vast plains. Scots were crucial in the development of the infrastructure of Canada, especially the Canadian Pacific Railway. Most of Canada's banks were founded by Scots.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="805 604 925 672">Scots contributed to the development of university education in Canada.</td><td data-bbox="925 604 1343 672">Scots helped to develop schools and universities across Canada including Dalhousie University, McGill University, the University of Toronto and Queen's University in Kingston.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="805 672 925 739">Scots were prominent in the development of political life in Canada.</td><td data-bbox="925 672 1343 739">A Scot, John A. Macdonald, was the first Prime Minister of Canada; he had helped guide Canada to independence in 1867. His successor was Alexander MacKenzie, also a Scot.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="805 739 925 806">Scots contributed to the economy of New Zealand.</td><td data-bbox="925 739 1343 806">Scots such as David Munro developed sheep farming in NZ. Scots moved into dairy produce too. Scots such as Thomas Brydone were instrumental in the development of the frozen meat industry in NZ.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="805 806 925 896">Scots had a major impact on cultural life in Australia, Canada and New Zealand.</td><td data-bbox="925 806 1343 896">Scottish traditions such as Burns' suppers, institutions celebrating Scottishness such as Highland Societies, Caledonian Societies, and other aspects of Scottish identity such as tartan and bagpiping became part of the cultural scene across the Empire.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Key point	Explanation	Scots had a considerable impact on the economy of Australia.	Scots worked in remote settlements introducing new farming techniques learned on Lowland farms and Highland crofts. Scots were heavily involved in the development of industry, particularly coal mining, engineering and shipping, for example, James and Alexander Brown established highly successful coal mines in Newcastle, New South Wales.	Scots contributed to the economy of Canada.	Scots dominated the Hudson Bay Company and Scots dominated in textiles, furniture making, oil, iron and steel. Highlanders who had been cleared off their land often emigrated to Canada where they developed agriculture on the vast plains. Scots were crucial in the development of the infrastructure of Canada, especially the Canadian Pacific Railway. Most of Canada's banks were founded by Scots.	Scots contributed to the development of university education in Canada.	Scots helped to develop schools and universities across Canada including Dalhousie University, McGill University, the University of Toronto and Queen's University in Kingston.	Scots were prominent in the development of political life in Canada.	A Scot, John A. Macdonald, was the first Prime Minister of Canada; he had helped guide Canada to independence in 1867. His successor was Alexander MacKenzie, also a Scot.	Scots contributed to the economy of New Zealand.	Scots such as David Munro developed sheep farming in NZ. Scots moved into dairy produce too. Scots such as Thomas Brydone were instrumental in the development of the frozen meat industry in NZ.	Scots had a major impact on cultural life in Australia, Canada and New Zealand.	Scottish traditions such as Burns' suppers, institutions celebrating Scottishness such as Highland Societies, Caledonian Societies, and other aspects of Scottish identity such as tartan and bagpiping became part of the cultural scene across the Empire.
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Scots were prominent in the development of political life in Canada.	A Scot, John A. Macdonald, was the first Prime Minister of Canada; he had helped guide Canada to independence in 1867. His successor was Alexander MacKenzie, also a Scot.														
Scots contributed to the economy of New Zealand.	Scots such as David Munro developed sheep farming in NZ. Scots moved into dairy produce too. Scots such as Thomas Brydone were instrumental in the development of the frozen meat industry in NZ.														
Scots had a major impact on cultural life in Australia, Canada and New Zealand.	Scottish traditions such as Burns' suppers, institutions celebrating Scottishness such as Highland Societies, Caledonian Societies, and other aspects of Scottish identity such as tartan and bagpiping became part of the cultural scene across the Empire.														

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: John Booth

Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2024 4:27 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; Iain Morrison <Iain.Morrison@sqa.org.uk>; Gill Stewart <Gill.Stewart@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: MEDIA QUERY - The Herald - Higher History

Thanks [REDACTED] and Iain. Have shortened and made some additions in red. Can Iain confirm these additions are accurate.

[REDACTED]

John

John Booth

Director of Communications, SQA

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2024 4:18 PM

To: Iain Morrison <Iain.Morrison@sqa.org.uk>; Gill Stewart <Gill.Stewart@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Cc: John Booth <John.Booth@sqa.org.uk>; Richard Pidgeon <Richard.Pidgeon@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: RE: MEDIA QUERY - The Herald - Higher History

Folks – thanks for the info – I’ve had a quick attempt at distilling it down a little.

See what you think...

+++++

DRAFT RESPONSE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ENDS

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 September 2024 10:15
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Higher History appeals

Morning [REDACTED]

I am about to issue the below comms to the team..

Thank you for confirming your attendance for the face-to-face event for History Higher Marking Reviews (Appeals).

Due to a higher than expected volume of submissions, we have added a review period following the conclusion of the face-to-face event, which will take place from Thursday, 19th of September to Sunday, 29th of September, 2024. The review period will be carried out at home.

We hope you can continue to support us by participating in this additional review period, following the initial face-to-face event. Please see below for confirmation of the dates scheduled.

- *Friday, 13th – Wednesday, 18th of September, 2024 – SQA Optima Office;*
- *Thursday, 19th – Sunday, 29th of September, 2024 – reviews carried out remotely at home.*

If you have previously confirmed your attendance for the F2F event, you do not need to reconfirm.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support to deliver for our learners.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 September 2024 15:19
To: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>; [REDACTED]@glow.sch.uk>
Subject: Higher Item Writing 2026 essay paper

Hi [REDACTED]

I will respond to this [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] We have already tried to standardise the contexts but worth thinking about this.

Maybe keep in mind for the Review Meeting too.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

I would like to enquire about the Higher History MIs for 2024 which were recently uploaded. There seems to be a significant change to and disparity in the Context being provided in the Britain, European & World Paper MIs. Some Context's are very short - one or two lines. Others are substantial paragraphs. Many (e.g. the UK 4 question) are incredibly detailed - much more than ever asked for before. Some (e.g. Cold War 4) read more like a summary of the war - I have always taught candidates that Context = background. What was the situation immediately before our time period being studied. I marked this paper in June 2024 and do not remember what was required for context marks changing from what had previously been required. I would appreciate it if someone could clarify the volume and detail required for context, whether it can still be 'background' information not a summary of the topic. Also, the Contexts seem to give a

line of argument. If pupils disagree and have a different line of argument from the one in the MI, will they still be credited?

Humanities, Care & Services – Qualifications Development Directorate

t: [REDACTED] m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW G2 8DQ

From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 10 September 2024 13:25
To: Iain Morrison <Iain.Morrison@sqa.org.uk>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Media enquiry
Importance: High

Hi both

We have another enquiry in from the Herald on Higher History.

The journalist has been shown a copy of a document that has been put together by a local authority History subject network and, has been told that the document has been sent to SQA.

The journalist says the key points from the local authority document are:

Content of the document

- A series of concerns that were “unanimously agreed” during a local authority’s History teachers network meeting
- It notes “significant and grave concerns” about Higher History marking this year
- It explicitly refers to “a shift in how marking points were to be interpreted” and clarifies, for example, that this included no longer giving marks for questions about Scots’ impact on the empire “unless they were connected with a named Scot”.
- The document also, explicitly, states that the standard was “changed retrospectively, after learners had sat the exam”.
- It raises concerns that the “SQA is willing to blame learners” for the major drops in scores and pass rates.
- It notes that there is a “clear disparity between Mis for this year and previous years”, with an example provided (one that is different from the example used in our most recent reporting). The teachers state that “this is not a comparable standard and for the SQA to maintain that ‘nothing has changed’ in the national standard is not acceptable.”
- They also state that a large number of unmarked scripts were returned to the SQA after markers withdrew from the process, with concerns being raised that the SQA’s handling of this “may also have compounded the issue”.
- The teachers also raise concerns about the SQA’s decision not to include Higher History in the Understanding Standards Webinars.

-ends-

Can you please confirm if we have received this letter from a local authority.

With regards to Understanding Standards webinars for Higher History – my understanding is that as a result of the feedback we have received, webinar(s) will be scheduled, allowing the History qualifications team, and principal assessor to address teachers' questions about learners' performance in this year's question paper. Additionally, we are in discussions with the Scottish Association of Teachers of History about running a session at their conference.

Is this correct and do we have dates for these webinars yet – have they been added to the schedule and has the session at the SATH conference been confirmed?

Thanks



From: [REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: 10 September 2024 13:48
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; Iain Morrison <Iain.Morrison@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry

Many thanks, [REDACTED] – and for your comment on the content of the Understanding Standards webinars.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 1:34 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>; Iain Morrison <Iain.Morrison@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry

Hi [REDACTED]

I can confirm that we have received this letter.

The reason for Higher History not being on the schedule is that dates had to be confirmed with the Higher Team and with internal colleagues. [REDACTED].

A session at the SATH conference has not been confirmed as this would be entirely voluntary. The appointee who tentatively agreed to attend was checking their availability.

Thanks, and regards.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.com>

Sent: 15 September 2024 12:38

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Media

Hi [REDACTED]

Just adding my thoughts

It's particularly disappointing that an exam which has performed the way it should have has led to such significant media coverage. In addition, the fact that during the appeals process we are finding nothing in the papers which indicates problems with marking and/or standards further reinforces the absurdity of this whole situation. When compared to previous years the standard being set is the same. I can say that in my department I have taught to the same standard with the same resources and my results have actually increased across the board. I know in many schools, including my own, significant challenges around behaviour, phones and ability to access work are becoming more prevalent. This is further manifested in the pressure to present substandard peoples who receive significant support but still struggle to access the curriculum. This is creating a further attainment gap which we are now blatantly witnessing.

I'm new to the team with this being my first whole exam process and I can't fault the support and professionalism of the whole team - who have the learners and qualification at heart. Particularly so many members over so many years that have the continuity of experience is particularly fruitful to draw upon and adds such wealth to the process.

Lastly, it is disappointing to see the response from the SQA as being so apathetic. All procedures were carried out fully and to the highest standard, the markers meetings were not difficult meetings and there was wide agreement across the room. In addition there has been no issues raised in markers reports, which have been wholly positive.

Much of this comes from a 'closed facebook group' who are a disgruntled minority and with an political agenda. It is disappointing that the SQA has not used the above information to defend the professionalism of the team and those involved in the qualification in order to prove the integrity of the whole process and our integrity as respected professionals in our field.

It is very sad, disappointing and angering to be in a position where we are essentially at the mercy of a small minority with no overview and an aggressive political agenda. I hope this is very quickly put to bed on the coming days.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@hotmail.co.uk>

Sent: 15 September 2024 21:52

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Thanks

Hi [REDACTED]

This has been my first year being part of the appeal process and marker check and I would just like to express my thanks; the team have been amazing. You have all made me feel incredibly welcome. When asking questions or advice every single person on the team takes the time to share their experience and invaluable expertise.

Throughout the entire process, from standardisation, to markers meetings, throughout the marking period and marker check I have found my fellow TL, the senior team and the PA have always been on stand-by to offer help, clarity, encouragement and support, with complete openness and genuine care to ensure we were getting the standard consistent and fair for markers and candidates.

Thanks again,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk>

Sent: 15 September 2024 21:58

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>

Subject: Comments

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope this message finds you well. Please feel free to edit or adapt any of the message below before passing it on, I give my permission for you to do so. You will have a much better understanding of what is appropriate to pass on.

I am writing to address the recent online comments and media articles concerning our team and the examination process. There are several unfounded claims being circulated, and I would like to clarify the situation from my perspective.

Firstly, I want to assure you that I have received full support from every member of our team throughout this process. This is my first experience participating in all additional stages, including finalisation, marker checks, and appeals. Our commitment to upholding the highest standards of integrity and transparency is unwavering. I have approached every single member of the team at some point for guidance and advice and every time I have been treated and spoken to respectfully, and advice has always been consistent from everyone.

[REDACTED] has been excellent in charge of the team and clearly has an 'open door' policy about any aspect of the procedures, sharing his vast experience of his time with the Higher History team in order to settle my nerves and reaffirm (on many occasions) that my professional input is valued and listened to.

In response to the recent backlash and online comments, I initially questioned my own professional performance and its impact on my approach to work and personal life. However, after thoroughly reviewing the appeals process, I am confident that the standards have been consistently applied. The grades awarded to candidates were well earned and should be respected. I have reviewed well over 100 appeals and have upgraded only a small number based on the established criteria. These adjustments were made due to marker errors identified across all papers, not just Paper 2.

The actions of individuals manipulating SQA documents to fit their own narrative are without merit and frankly absurd. Suggestions that the increased detail in the marking instructions indicated discrepancies are plain wrong, when in fact, this additional detail is intended to support markers in covering topics that may not be included in every pack. The responses online are without merit.

There has been no indication from colleagues at the marker meeting that they were dissatisfied with the exam or the marker meeting itself. At my team every question was answered and agreed on, advice sought from the senior team for clarification and the team commenting on how supported they felt throughout the entire marking process through RM Assessor. The lack of issues or concerns being raised during these processes makes the current online backlash particularly perplexing. It appears that the individual leading the online comments may have a specific agenda and the more they attempt to incite controversy, the less credible their claims become.

Given the ongoing situation, I believe it is crucial that the SQA provides full support to the Higher History team. This support is essential to address any misconceptions and to maintain the integrity of our work, and would further reflect the support and professionalism that I have received from everyone ([REDACTED] [REDACTED]).

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your support in ensuring that the true nature of our efforts is understood and respected.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 September 2024 10:45
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sqa.org.uk>
Subject: Scottish Wars query

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope this finds you well and enjoying the final (waning!) days of sunshine.

A member of our department was a Higher marker this year, but now that the finalised MIs are in the public domain we've been studying closely the Paper 2 Scottish Wars MI. Although our component marks for this paper were well above the national average of a fail this paper still pulled down many of our candidates. When we saw the paper in May we were pleasantly surprised, but the MIs have caused us some head-scratching. I'm hoping you can therefore shed some light...

1. Following Understanding Standards events and feedback from previous years we drill into our candidates the importance of linking every single point back to the question. But the MIs this year seemed to list under "possible points of significant omission" things that we think are simply contextual facts and do not actually answer the question. For example, Q1 – evaluate the usefulness on problems caused by the death of the Maid of Norway – features "Her ship was caught in a storm in Orkney where she died resulting in a new succession problem" and "the Scottish nobles who assembled at Scone learned of her death in October 1290. This resulted in a succession crisis". In what way is describing the circumstances of her death, and describing when/where the nobles found out about her death, outlining the *problems* caused by her death?
2. The MIs "possible comment" for some of the provenance marks for this same question were also problematic. For example, the MI states the "purpose" of the source was to "inform Edward I of the rumour of Margaret Maid of Norway, had died". The much more obvious purpose of the source was surely to ask Edward I to be wary of competitors to the throne and/or to come to the border should the rumours of the Maid's death be confirmed in order to prevent possible civil war?
3. In the Two Source Q, the "overall viewpoint" marks are simply too hard to get. These marks are not even required at Advanced Higher to get full marks. I would like to see these marks removed and a reversion to the previous arrangement where candidates can get all the source marks available through direct source points. The three of us who teach Higher in the department (all with over a decade teaching this topic) all had a go at considering what we would write as the overall viewpoints for each source and none of us landed on the perspectives written in the MI. I don't think the candidates have much hope.

Thanks for your time –

Kind regards

[REDACTED]