

National Course modification summary: Latin



National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher course assessment in session 2020–21

The Deputy First Minister has announced that National 5 exams will not take place in session 2020–21. SQA is working with stakeholders to develop an alternative certification model for National 5 that is based on teacher and lecturer estimates.

At present, Higher and Advanced Higher exams are still planned for 2021 and this will remain under review. We continue to work with stakeholders to put contingency plans in place to respond to any changes in public health advice, or local or national lockdowns, that may result in further changes to the 2021 exam diet — including changes to the timetable.

For up-to-date information on arrangements for National Courses in session 2020–21, including timetable information and guidance on estimates, please visit our website at www.sqa.org.uk/nq2021.

Modifications to assessment

Following our public consultation on proposed modifications to National 5 to Advanced Higher course assessment, which closed on 24 August 2020, we are making changes to course assessment for session 2020–21. The changes detailed on the following pages are intended to support the delivery of learning and teaching, while maintaining the validity, credibility and standard of the courses.

We have published a high-level report on the outcomes of the consultation, which is available from www.sqa.org.uk/nq2021. This includes details of the modifications to National 5 course assessment, which were planned prior to the 2021 National 5 exams being cancelled.

As a result of the modifications, we are exploring the implications for National 3 and National 4 courses in session 2020–21 and will provide further guidance in due course.

National 5 course assessment 2020–21

There will be no external assessment for National 5 courses in session 2020–21.

Candidates will not be required to sit exams and SQA will not assess coursework.

Instead, we are working with stakeholders to develop an alternative certification model for National 5 that is based on teacher and lecturer estimates.

Centres need to gather evidence of candidates' attainment and use this to determine estimate grades and bands. We have published separate guidance on gathering evidence and producing estimates and there is an SQA Academy course available to support teachers and lecturers.

We are also developing subject-specific guidance for teachers and lecturers on gathering evidence and producing estimates. This will include how the previously-intended National 5

modifications could be used to support with gathering evidence and producing estimates in session 2020–21. This guidance will be published from the end of October.

Details of the modifications we had previously intended to make to National 5 course assessment in session 2020–21 are included in our high-level report on the outcomes of the consultation.

To view the high-level report, and to access the guidance on gathering evidence and producing estimates, visit www.sqa.org.uk/nq2021.

Higher course assessment 2020–21

Component	Marks	Scaled mark	Duration
Component 1: question paper Literary appreciation	40	80	1 hours and 30 minutes
Component 2: question paper Translating	50	not applicable	1 hour

Component 1: question paper Literary appreciation

This question paper has 40 marks, to be scaled to 80 marks for session 2020–21. The duration of course assessment is reduced to 1 hour and 30 minutes for session 2020–21.

For session 2020–21, the requirement for candidates to select and answer two authors from the five prescribed text authors is reduced. Candidates select and answer one author only.

Given the importance of developing literary appreciation skills for different types of texts, it is hoped that opportunities to develop a breadth of these skills will continue even although only one author will be formally assessed in the question paper.

Advanced Higher course assessment 2020–21

Component	Marks	Scaled marks	Duration
Component 1: question paper Literary appreciation	60	not applicable	1 hour and 45 minutes
Component 2: question paper Translating	40	60	1 hour
Component 3: project–dissertation	60	not applicable	

Component 2: question paper Translating

This question paper has 40 marks, to be scaled to 60 marks for session 2020–21. The duration of course assessment is reduced to 1 hour for session 2020–21.

The verse translating text will be removed from the question paper for session 2020–21. This will reduce the raw course assessment marks by 20, and reduce the duration of the course assessment to 1 hour.

Removing the verse translating text will increase learning and teaching time for other areas of the course. There will be more opportunities for candidates to develop the skills of literary appreciation and translating, and preparation for the project–dissertation.

If you have any questions about these changes, please email NQ2020@sqa.org.uk.