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NQ verification 2022–23 round 2

Qualification verification summary report

Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	Cantonese and Mandarin (Simplified)
Verification activity:	Event
Date published:	June 2023

National Course components verified

Course code	Course level	Course title
C845 75	National 5	Mandarin (Simplified): performance–talking
C811 75	National 5	Cantonese: performance–talking
C845 76	Higher	Mandarin (Simplified): performance–talking
C811 76	Higher	Cantonese: performance–talking

Note: the performance–talking is an internally assessed component of course assessment (IACCA).

Section 2: comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Most centres selected for verification in round 2 used SQA's coursework assessment task for the performance–talking, as set out in the National 5 and Higher course specifications.

At National 5, all centres selected for verification used approaches to assessment that were valid and accepted. The presentations and conversations sampled provided scope for candidates to demonstrate accurate handling of detailed language and a range of tenses appropriate to National 5.

At Higher, most centres selected for verification used approaches to assessment that were valid and accepted.

Note: SQA's course assessment task for the performance–talking at Higher is a discussion between the assessor and the candidate and does not include a presentation.

Assessment judgements

Most centres' judgements at both National 5 and Higher Cantonese and Mandarin (Simplified) were accepted.

At National 5, most centres demonstrated how marks had been awarded in line with national standards. Assessors made effective use of SQA's marking instructions to support the marks awarded to each candidate.

Where centres were not accepted, the marking information was not appropriately applied, and marks awarded were not in line with national standards. Centres should refer to Understanding Standards materials for internally assessed components of course assessment, available on SQA's secure website.

At Higher, the marks awarded by most centres selected for verification were in line with national standards. Assessors had made effective use of the marking information to justify the marks awarded to each candidate.

Section 3: general comments

For the purposes of SQA external verification, centres are advised to:

♦ provide commentary in the candidate assessment record against the marks awarded for each section of the performance–talking. In particular, it would be useful to have an explanation why the centre has opted for one pegged mark over another
♦ provide documented evidence of their internal verification procedures and processes and how this was applied to the candidate evidence sampled. To support the effectiveness of internal verification, centres may find the NQ internal verification toolkit web page useful
♦ ensure the marks awarded for each candidate are entered on the verification sample form
♦ ensure the marks awarded and entered on the candidate assessment record form (or similar document) match the marks entered on the verification sample form