

NQ verification 2022–23 round 2

Qualification verification summary report

Section 1: verification group information

Verification group name:	Media
Verification activity:	Event
Date published:	June 2023

National Units verified

Unit code	Unit level	Unit title
H235 73	National 3	Analysing Media Content
H238 73	National 3	Creating Media Content
H235 74	National 4	Analysing Media Content
H238 74	National 4	Creating Media Content
J22B 75	SCQF level 5	Analysing Media Content with a Scottish Context
J297 75	SCQF level 5	Analysing Media Content

Section 2: comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

A mix of centre-devised and SQA unit assessment support packs were used, along with National 5 assignments used to assess candidates for the Analysing Media Content unit (National 4).

While using centre-devised assessments is entirely valid, it is advisable to submit these for prior verification. Prior verification is a free service that is offered by SQA. When using centre-devised assessments, it is important to ensure that candidates are able to achieve all the assessment standards. This is particularly worth noting for the National 5 assignment, as it is not always apparent where the assignment task articulates with the Analysing Media Content unit, particularly in terms of 'evaluation of the production process' and of 'production skills'.

Where centres have adapted assessments, even if only slightly, it is advisable to provide a modified version of the judging evidence table, which exemplifies possible responses to the centre-devised assessment.

It was encouraging to see centres devising innovative, candidate-led solutions to tackling Analysing Media Content with a Scottish Context, enabling personalisation and choice while still ensuring that candidates could meet all the assessment standards.

Assessment judgements

Centre judgements were broadly in line with national standards, and reliable and consistent. Some judgements, however, did not take into account the modifications for session 2022–23.

In the Analysing Media Content unit (National 4), some candidates were expected to explain the use of key aspects, but only description is required at that level. Some evidence lacked sufficient detail and centres may benefit from reviewing Understanding Standards materials, which exemplify the appropriate level of detail.

Centres should ensure that they are using the most up-to-date version of the unit assessment support packs, particularly for the Analysing Media Content unit (National 4, 2015 update).

Section 3: general comments

Candidates demonstrate confident understanding of terminology in terms of the key aspects, particularly in terms of content. Historic confusion over terms such as using language to refer to dialogue or representations to refer to diversity was not in evidence. However, there continues to be some confusion over description of body language and/or dialogue alone as meeting the assessment standard as a component of representation.