

Course Title and level: **English (National 5)**

The main purpose of the Course is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop the skills of listening, talking, reading and writing in order to understand and use language.

As learners develop their literacy skills, they will be able to process information more easily, apply knowledge of language in practical and relevant contexts, and gain confidence to undertake new and more challenging tasks in a variety of situations.



Building on literacy skills, the Course develops understanding of the complexities of language, including through the study of a wide range of texts. The Course develops high levels of analytical thinking and understanding of the impact of language.

The Course offers learners opportunities to develop and extend a wide range of skills. In particular, the Course aims to enable learners to develop the ability to:



- listen, talk, read and write, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- understand, analyse and evaluate texts, including Scottish texts, as appropriate to purpose and audience in the contexts of literature, language and media
- create and produce texts, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- apply knowledge and understanding of language

During the English course at National 5, learners will have the opportunity to overtake the Literacy outcomes, thus broadening their skills in language.

Entry to this course will be at the discretion of the department. Normally learners who take this course will have

- demonstrated a high level of competence in Broad General Education at Level Four
- attained National 4 English
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Assessment:

**Internal assessments**

Learners will be assessed in the two Units:

- Analysis and Evaluation
- Creation and Production



These units will be assessed during class time, using materials supplied by and/or verified by SQA. They will cover the skills of Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening. Learners may be assessed on a unit by unit basis, or in a combined assessment, which is designed to assess more than one skill concurrently.

These unit assessments are Pass/Fail.

There will be one re-assessment opportunity.

**External assessments**

- Portfolio of Coursework – Writing
- Question Paper - Examination

The Portfolio of Writing is compiled in the course of the session. Learners will have personalisation and choice in determining topics/ideas for writing, but the Portfolio must

contain two pieces: one Creative (which may be Imaginative or Reflective) and one Discursive (which may be Argumentative, Persuasive or a Report). Learners will have the opportunity to redraft their work, but it will be assessed by the teacher on a maximum of two occasions. The Portfolio will be submitted to SQA for external marking.

The Question Paper will have two papers: one designed to assess Close Reading skills and the other to assess Literary and Analytical skills. The time allowed for the overall examination is 2 ½ hours and it is likely that this will be divided into 1 hour for Close Reading and 1½ hours for the Literature and Analysis paper.

In the Close Reading paper, learners will answer questions designed to test their understanding, analysis, evaluation, summarising and inferencing skills. The passage will be non-fiction and previously unseen.

In the Literature and Analysis paper, there will be two sections: a critical essay on a text studied in class by learners and a section analysing one of the set Scottish text studied in class.

The learner's overall grade will be awarded on the basis of the overall mark attained in the Question Paper and the Folio of Writing.

### **Homework:**

Learners can expect to be doing at least 1 hour of homework per week. This may not always be set written homework, but will include the following:

- Reading literary texts (and revising these)
- Completing /preparing notes
- Preparing presentations
- Producing Folio Writing pieces
- Completing Close Reading exercises
- Personal reading
- research

When no homework is set by the class teacher, there is an expectation that learners will engage in private study, revising literary texts and Close Reading skills and/or engaging in a variety of personal reading, including broadsheet journalism as well as good quality fiction. The latter is an essential aspect of the development of literary and linguistic skills.

### **Progression:**

Learners who successfully complete English (National 5) may progress to:

- English (Higher)
- Media Studies (Higher or National 5)
- Appropriate college courses
- Employment

## **English (National 4)**

The main purpose of the Course is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop the skills of listening, talking, reading and writing in order to understand and use language.

As learners develop their literacy skills, they will be able to process information more easily, apply knowledge of language in practical and relevant contexts, and gain confidence to undertake new and more challenging tasks in a variety of situations.

The Course offers learners opportunities to develop and extend a wide range of skills. In particular, the Course aims to enable learners to develop the ability to:

- listen, talk, read and write, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- understand, analyse and evaluate texts, as appropriate to purpose and audience in the contexts of literature, language and media
- create and produce texts, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- plan and research, integrating and applying language skills as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- apply knowledge of language

During the English course at National 4, learners will have the opportunity to overtake the Literacy outcomes, thus broadening their skills in language.

Entry to this course will be at the discretion of the department. Normally learners who take this course will have

- demonstrated competence in Broad General Education at Level Three
- attained National 3 English

Assessment:

### **Internal assessments**

Learners will be assessed in three Units:

- Analysis and Evaluation
- Creation and Production
- Added Value Unit

These units will be assessed during class time, using materials supplied by and/or verified by SQA. They will cover the skills of Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening. Learners may be assessed on a unit by unit basis, or in a combined assessment, which is designed to assess more than one skill concurrently.

These unit assessments are Pass/Fail.

There will be one re-assessment opportunity.

There is no external assessment for this Course.

### **Homework:**

Learners can expect to be doing at least 1 hour of homework per week. This may not always be set written homework, but will include the following:

- Reading literary texts (and revising these)
- Completing /preparing notes
- Preparing presentations
- Producing Folio Writing pieces
- Completing Close Reading exercises
- Personal reading
- research

When no homework is set by the class teacher, there is an expectation that learners will engage in private study, revising literary texts and Close Reading skills and/or engaging in a variety of personal reading, including broadsheet journalism as well as good quality fiction. The latter is an essential aspect of the development of literary and linguistic skills.

Progression:

Learners who successfully complete English (National 5) may progress to:

- English (National 5)
- Media Studies (National 5)
- Literacy (National 5)
- Appropriate college courses
- Employment