Route map through assessment

Course: Latin   Level: National 4

This document is intended to assist staff in planning and delivering the overall vision for Curriculum for Excellence.

The vision for the new national qualifications is to create assessment opportunities that follow and support learning and teaching. This follows the principles laid out in *Building the Curriculum 5* and makes assessment a natural part of learning and teaching.

This route map aims to signpost all of the relevant material that is available to support your subject. Your professional judgement is vital and the documents listed below are intended to support you in deciding the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and assess learners.

Education Scotland has produced a professional focus paper for Latin, and this is a good starting point as it provides support to help develop learning and teaching approaches that take forward the purposes and principles of Curriculum for Excellence through Latin National 4.
http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/nq/l/nqresource_tcm4745500.asp?strReferringChannel=educationscotland&strReferringPageID=tcm:4-615801-64

Latin National 4 course content

There are three units:

- **Latin: Translating**
  For this unit learners will be required to provide evidence of at least two translations of straightforward unseen Latin prose texts from Latin into English. The translations will be of two different types of Latin texts. Evidence of outcomes can be in written or oral form.

  Further information can be found on the SQA Latin National 4 page:
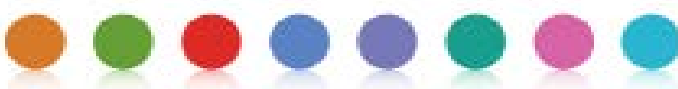 http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_N4_Latin_Translating.pdf

- **Latin: Literary Appreciation**
  For this unit learners will be required to provide evidence of understanding, analysing and evaluating at least two straightforward texts partly in Latin and partly translated into English. The texts will be of two different types. Texts in Latin and translated into English can include written or digital texts.

  Further information can be found on the SQA Latin National 4 page:
  http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_N4_LatinLiteraryAppreciation.pdf

There is also a full package of unit assessment support available on the SQA Secure website for these mandatory units. The package includes unit assessments for both combined approaches and unit-by-unit approaches.

- **Added Value Unit**
  For this unit learners will be required to provide evidence of:
  – translating at least one straightforward Latin text
  – selecting, analysing and evaluating relevant information about aspects of Roman culture from at least two straightforward Latin texts
  – presenting findings orally or in writing
  – responding appropriately to relevant questions.

Unit assessment

The above units are mandatory when taken as part of the Latin National 4 course, but they can also be stand-alone. Unit support notes follow on from the course support notes.
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_CourseUnitSupportNotes_N4_Languages_Latin.pdf

To achieve the full Latin National 4 award learners must pass all of the units, including the Added Value Unit.

Preparation for the Added Value Unit assignment
In discussion with staff learners should select a topic and aspect of Roman culture to investigate using their translating and literary appreciation skills. Examples of topics are contained in the added value section of the SQA Secure site for Latin National 4. Alternatively, learners may agree any suitable topic with staff. Between two and four key questions/areas of investigation relevant to the chosen topic should be identified. Learners should then agree with staff at least two relevant straightforward texts, one of which must be a Latin text and one of which may be a Latin text in translation. Learners translate the Latin text and then select, analyse and evaluate relevant information from that text and at least one other chosen text on the topic for investigation.

Stage 1: Selecting, analysing and evaluating relevant information from the texts
Learners must show understanding of at least two straightforward texts on their chosen topic. The texts used may be short extracts from texts translated in the Latin: Translating or Latin: Literary Appreciation units, although learners may use other relevant texts agreed with the assessor, such as texts from their Latin course book. Learners can ask for clarification, for example on selecting relevant information from the texts. The translation of at least one text should be done independently by the learner.

Selection, analysis and evaluation of the texts used may be shown in a variety of ways, such as:
- translating and making notes on the main points and details relevant to the chosen topic and aspect of Roman culture in the texts
- selecting information relevant to the topic and aspect of Roman culture to include in the presentation
- answering questions on the texts orally or in writing.

Analysis and evaluation of the texts may include, at a basic level appropriate to National 4, how the text is written and conveys meaning, the type of language used and key messages relevant to the topic and aspect of Roman culture chosen.

Once learners have decided what to include in their oral or written presentation, they should be given feedback on the selection of information.

Stage 2: Presenting findings
Learners should prepare a presentation independently with limited support from staff, such as technical advice on the use of visual aids/images in both written and oral presentations.

Oral presentation

This should comprise 3–4 minutes for the oral presentation followed by 3–4 minutes for questions. An oral presentation could be to a small group including staff, a class or staff only. Questions could be from any member of the audience but would normally include questions from staff.

Learners should be made aware that notes should be used in oral presentations as prompts and not read out verbatim. Learners should also be advised to present their findings in their own words rather than 'lifting' material from the texts.

Texts consulted or quoted should be acknowledged in the presentation and recorded in learners' notes or other form of evidence.

Written presentation

500–600 words for the written presentation and 3–4 minutes for questions.This could be in the form of:

- an essay
- a report
- any other written medium, provided it shows the findings clearly.

Stage 3: Responding to questions

Learners will respond to questions about his/her findings irrespective of whether the presentation is oral or written.

There should be a question and answer session of 3–4 minutes. Limited support such as repetition or rephrasing of questions by staff may be provided if questions asked by the audience are unclear or not relevant to the topic. Learners can ask for clarification, if required, but the response to the questions should demonstrate understanding of the chosen texts and how they reflect connections between the chosen topic and aspect of Roman culture. Responses to questions may reiterate points already made but should not simply repeat the information.

Learners can also provide evidence of the ability to respond to questions to demonstrate understanding of texts and the chosen topic at earlier stages of the assignment, for example at stage 1 of selecting information from the texts used. Evidence for this should be retained.

Verification

The verification process is intended be supportive to staff.

Internal verification is the process of ensuring standards are applied uniformly and consistently within a school in line with national standards. External verification is the process of ensuring that national standards are maintained consistently across all schools.

Quality assurance: http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58448.html.

The following links will also support staff when preparing evidence for verification purposes, including prior verification, as well as internal and external verification:

http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/Prior%20Verification%20Centre%20Guidance%20FINAL.pdf

http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/InternalVerificationGuideforSQAcentres.pdf

http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/Evidence_required_for_verificationevents.pdf

http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/SQA_Evidence_retention_requirements_A3_table.pdf

Other useful websites

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/subjects/classics.asp

http://www.slu.edu/colleges/AS/languages/classical/latin/tchmat/tchmat.html

http://wayback.archive-it.org/1961/20100802084938/http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/latinonline/