

English

National 5

Progression through English

Higher
English

On successful completion of National 5, learners could progress to Higher English

The study of English allows pupils to develop crucial literacy skills which are required to access subjects across the school curriculum, in further and higher education, and in the world of work.

Course Content

Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

Learners will build skills and confidence in applying their reading skills in the challenging context of unseen material and a limited time.

Critical Reading

Learners will build skills in responding to previously studied texts, including at least one Scottish Text from a prescribed list. Learners' responses to texts will be in the format of responding to a series of questions and completing a Critical Essay.

Portfolio of Writing

Learners will develop skills in writing for two different purposes: broadly creative and broadly discursive

Skills Developed

The National 5 English course offers learners the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills. In particular, the course aims to enable learners to develop the ability to:

- read, write, talk and listen, as appropriate to purpose, audience and context
- understand, analyse and evaluate texts, in the contexts of literature and language
- create and produce texts through the application of their knowledge and understanding of language

Assessment

Course Assessment

Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation: external examination (30%)

Critical Essay: external examination (20%)

Scottish Set Text: external examination (20%)

Portfolio of Writing: Externally Assessed

The marks gained from this coursework make up 30% of the overall award.

Pupils submit one redrafted piece of writing, created under supervised conditions, according to SQA guidelines.

Spoken Language Assessment: Internally Assessed

This element, which can be achieved through an individual presentation or group discussion, is assessed on an achieved/not achieved basis. It is a compulsory requirement for a course award in National 5 English.

Related Careers

English is needed for most jobs, including those you might not expect such as engineering and science.

English is particularly useful in industries such as creative and digital media, law and the public sector, including education.

English helps to build skills in communication, planning & organisation and attention to detail.

Careers using English include; solicitor, teacher, journalist, social worker, paralegal, marketing manager, public relations officer, TV / radio producer and careers adviser.

Emma Watson, Stephen Fry and Martin Scorsese all have English degrees.

