

Commentary on candidate evidence

The evidence for these candidates has achieved the following marks for this course assessment component.

Candidate 1

Assignment-writing title: Holiday in Spain

The candidate was awarded **20 marks**.

Content

Overall, this is a very competent piece of writing. The candidate addresses the title in a full, structured and balanced way and the content is entirely relevant to the title. A wide range of opinions and reasons are given.

Accuracy

There are few errors in spelling and grammar. The use of accents is less secure but does not detract from the overall quality of the response.

Language resource

The candidate correctly uses a range of detailed language, appropriate to the level, throughout the response.

The candidate correctly uses the past tense of regular and irregular verbs throughout the response. The past tense of the verb 'to be' is also used correctly.

The candidate has used connectives to increase the complexity of the sentences.

Candidate 2

Assignment-writing title: My holidays

The candidate was awarded **12 marks**.

Content

This is a well-structured response which addressed the title fully. The candidate has made a good attempt to include some ideas, reasons and opinions.

Accuracy

The candidate demonstrates an adequate degree of grammatical accuracy corresponding to the level.

The candidate has been less successful in accurately expressing some opinions *Bha mi a' còrdadh rium*

There is evidence of incorrect use of some simple prepositions e.g. *aig an Èirinn; coltach gu an t-side*.

Other errors regarding prepositions, which detract from the quality of the response, include:

- ◆ *Ri mo sgoil*
- ◆ *Aig an port-adhair*
- ◆ *Chaidh sinn bus* (missing preposition)
- ◆ *Air an coiseachd*

On balance, in spite of the errors, there is more correct language than incorrect language.

Language resource

The candidate has correctly used an idiom: *bha an t-eagal orm*

Some simple plural nouns have been used correctly e.g. *bùthan, sgoilearan*

The candidate has attempted to use the past tense of irregular verbs e.g. *chaidh, fhuair* and *rinn*. Some regular verbs are used correctly in the past tense e.g. *cheannaich, dh'fhàg*

Other past tense verb forms are less successful e.g. *d' fhuirich, gabh sinn, bha sinn gu dion, coimheadh, seinn salm,*

An attempt has been made to use a range of structures.

Candidate 3

Assignment-writing title: My school and subjects

The candidate was awarded **8 marks**.

Content

The content is relevant to the title and an attempt has been made to structure the response appropriately and express opinions.

Accuracy

Most words are spelt correctly. With the exception of the first sentence, fourth paragraph and part of the sixth paragraph, all other sentences contain grammatical errors some of which are of a serious nature and demonstrate an inadequate degree of grammatical accuracy corresponding to the level.

Language resource

The candidate used a range of adjectives e.g. *eadar-dhealaichte*, *feumail*, *inntinneach*, *doirbh*, *tioram* and *dona*.

The candidate correctly used some language appropriate to National 5 in one sentence:
Tha spòrs a' còrdadh rium;

Although a comparative is used (*nas dorra*), the candidate was unable to complete the sentence accurately.

There is no attempt to use a range of tenses. The present tense of the verb 'to be' is used throughout. There is a limited amount of detailed language appropriate to the level.

Candidate 4

Assignment-writing title: Your friend in your partner school has asked you about your friends.

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

Content

There is a clear attempt to produce a response, which is relevant to the title. The final paragraph, however, has no relevance to the title.

The content is repetitive in places e.g. the friends' names are listed twice. No opinions/reasons are expressed. The content is very limited and not appropriate to the level.

Accuracy

The first paragraph is accurate and contains few grammatical errors. However, the remainder of the response contains serious grammatical errors in every sentence. These errors impede communication and demonstrate an insufficient degree of accuracy expected at this level.

Language resource

The first paragraph contains a range of detailed language appropriate to the level e.g.

- ◆ *Mo charaidhean; ar pàrantan*
- ◆ *Choinnich sinn*

The candidate has unsuccessfully attempted to use language that is more complex: *nar caraidean* instead of *nan caraidean*.

This level of language in the first paragraph is not sustained throughout the response.