

# NATIONALS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of English National 5

ENGLISH  
LANGUAGES

NATIONAL  
5

2  
UNITS

## ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

– the receptive skills of reading and listening to understand, analyse and evaluate texts

## CREATION AND PRODUCTION

– the productive skills of writing and talking to create oral and written texts

+  
COURSE  
ASSESSMENT

## COURSE ASSESSMENT: PORTFOLIO OF WORK + QUESTION PAPER

## What skills will my child develop?

- understanding, explaining, analysing and evaluating detailed texts (language, literature and media) in oral and written forms
- creating, structuring and producing detailed texts for different purposes
- developing detailed language skills in language, literature and media contexts
- using different media for learning and communication
- social and interpersonal skills
- identifying sources, selecting and using information
- planning, researching and decision-making
- effective questioning and reflection
- justifying ideas with evidence
- communicating ideas, feelings and information orally and in writing with technical accuracy
- understanding how language works
- developing cultural awareness
- using creative and critical thinking to synthesise ideas and arguments

## WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning by setting personal targets, reviewing and reflecting on progress and deciding next steps
- A blend of classroom approaches including whole class, small group or one to one discussions; direct interactive teaching
- Collaborative learning: in groups or pairs to encourage team-working, relationship-building, the verbalisation of ideas; with learners in other curricular areas to reinforce and transfer skills
- Space for personalization and choice: Selecting texts and ways of showing evidence (presentation, e-document, critical essay); choice of Assignment topic
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy skills: selecting and assessing information, presenting findings; evaluating; debating; listening, reading, writing.

## ASSESSMENT

- To gain National 5, learners must pass all Units and the Course Assessment (the Portfolio and the Question Paper)
- Units are assessed by the school/centre (following SQA external quality assurance to meet national standards)
- Unit Assessment (or 'evidence of learning') for the units could be digital or spoken presentations, posters, leaflets, extended writing, notes or podcasts
- The Course Assessment consists of the Portfolio of written work and a Question Paper (exam) which will incorporate a question on a selected Scottish text as well as a critical essay on any text of their choosing. Both are marked by the SQA and will be graded A to D.

National 5 progresses onto Higher English

For more detailed course information:

SQA: English National 5: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47410.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47410.html)

Education Scotland: [www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp)

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview\\_tcm4-665983.pdf](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf)