



# HIGHER ENGLISH INFORMATION

**\*RIGOUR, ASPIRATION AND PERSEVERANCE\***



**Article 29**  
**The right to an education that develops your talents and abilities**

# WHAT WE EXPECT IN THE FACULTY?

- **RIGOUR** – IF IT IS WORTH DOING, THEN DO IT TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY
- **ASPIRATION** – ALWAYS TRY TO BE THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF
- **PERSEVERANCE** – NEVER GIVE UP ON YOURSELF, BECAUSE WE NEVER WILL

## GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY LEARNER

- One size does not fit all
- Communication
- All stakeholders involved
- Positive / Solution Focused
- Beyond the 'traditional route'



# HIGHER RESULTS 22/23

Result	A	B	C	D	NA
(110 pupils) Percentage	34 (31%)	36 (33%)	26 (24%)	9 (8%)	5 (4%)

**\*This means that there was an 87% pass rate for Higher with 64% of our pupils achieving an A or B grade\* National average for an A-C grade across Scotland is 75.9%**

**23 Pupils achieved an SCQF Level 6 National Certificate in Communication and Literature**



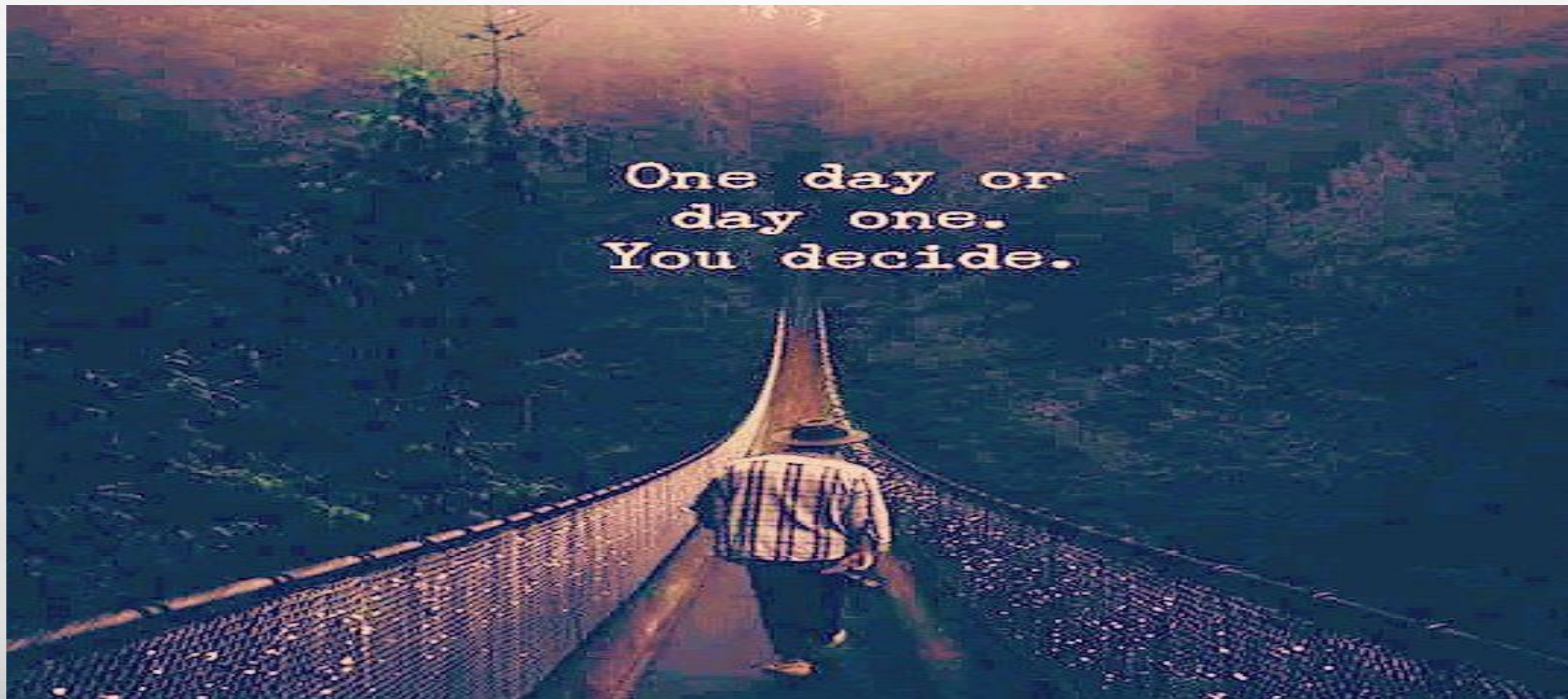
# NATIONAL 5 RESULTS 22/23

Result	A	B	C	D	NA
(154 pupils) Percentage	69 (45%)	42 (27%)	24 (16%)	13 (8%)	6 (4%)

**\*This means that there was a 88% pass rate for N5 with 72% of our pupils achieving an A or B grade. \***

**National average for an A grade is 39.8% / Pupils that were struggling had N4 banked**

One day or  
day one.  
You decide.



# S5 ENGLISH

- **WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?**
- **HIGHER**
- **NC COMMUNICATION AND LITERATURE**



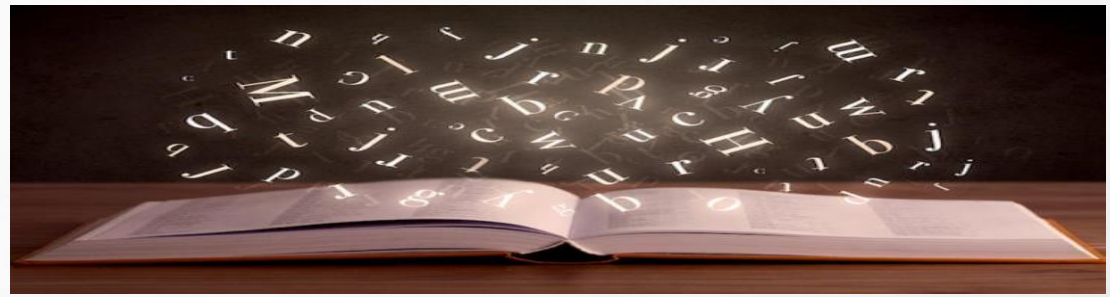
# COURSE OUTLINE

- **RUAE (PAPER 1) – EXAM 30%**
- **CRITICAL READING (PAPER 2) – EXAM 40% (ESSAY/SET TEXT)**
- **FOLIO- EXTERNAL 30% (ONLY ONE ESSAY THIS YEAR)**



# **RUAE – 1HR 30MINS**

## **N5 – 1HR**



- **RUAE stands for Reading, Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation.**
- **Pupils will be tested on their understanding of the passage, their analysis of language and evaluating how successful it has been in getting across the main ideas.**
- **The RUAE paper will consist of 2 non-fiction passages.**
- **They will both focus on the same topic but may express different views.**

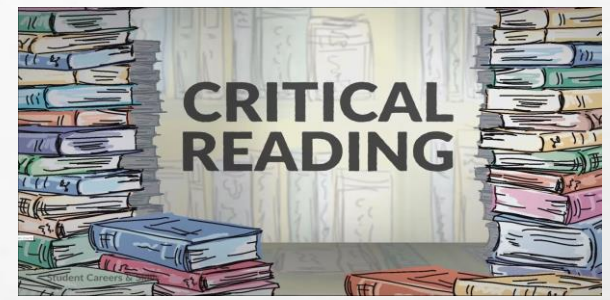
# **RUAЕ – 1HR 30MINS**

## **N5 – 1HR**



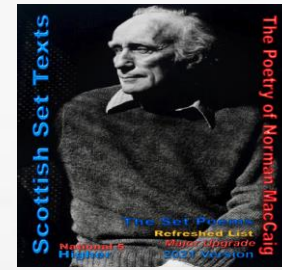
- The majority of the questions will focus on passage one. The final question will ask the candidate to consider both passages (5 marks).
- Pupils are encouraged to answer in bullet point form.
- The big difference from N5 is that there are no longer marks awarded for quotes or references (still need to go through that process).
- Higher average out of 30 = 15.8
- N5 average out of 30 = 15.7

# CRITICAL READING 1HR 30MINS



- This paper consists of two different sections – Scottish Set Text and Critical Essay
- Both sections are worth 20% each
- Candidates will spend roughly 45 mins on each section
- Time management is a key skill for this paper
- Higher average out of 40 = 22
- N5 average out of 40 = 27.6

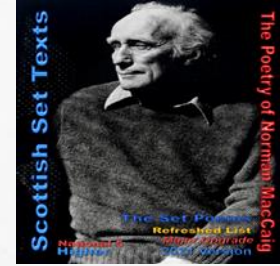
# SCOTTISH SET TEXT



- Section one is Scottish set text – a study of Scottish literature.
- The class teacher will have chosen one of the following options:
  - 6 poems
  - 3 short stories
  - A play
  - A novel.
- They will have detailed notes and annotations for each poem in their possession.
- They will receive one poem in the exam and the majority of questions will be based on this poem.



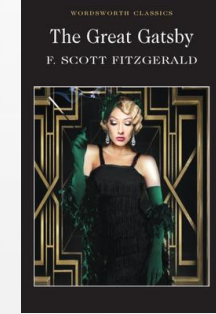
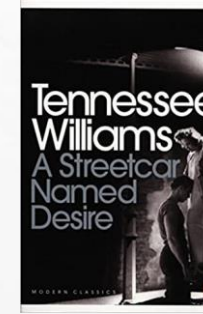
# SCOTTISH SET TEXT



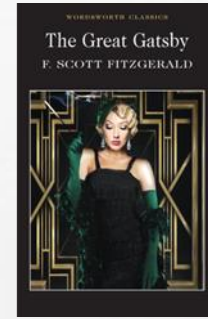
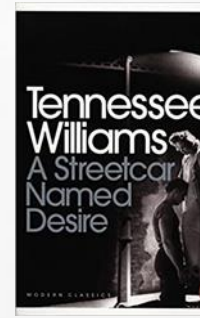
- The last question will always be worth 10 marks and it is the only time they must bring in evidence from the other poems. There is a set structure to answer this question and every pupil will have detailed notes explaining what is required.
- The big difference between N5 and Higher is that candidates will no longer receive marks for references or quotes. All available marks are based on analysis.

# CRITICAL ESSAY

- Section two is the critical essay of the exam.
- Each candidate will study either a novel, play or short story. They will work through the text in detail and take notes on aspects like characterisation, theme, conflict etc They will also be given model examples of responses to the type of questions that arise in this section.
- Candidates will be asked to choose one question from various different sections of questions. They must answer the questions under the genre of text they studied e.g. If they studied a play, then they must answer one of the questions from the Drama section.



# CRITICAL ESSAY



- Candidates will have roughly 45 mins to write this essay. It is important that candidates practice writing essays within this time frame (unless they are entitled to extra time). This will give them every chance of writing a detailed and thorough response in the time allocated.

- This is the coursework that is completed throughout the year and is usually submitted to the SQA before the Easter break to be marked.
- Candidates can select between a Discursive/Persuasive or Reflective/Creative genre for their piece. Candidates usually have to submit two pieces but the SQA have removed one piece this year in response to the impact of COVID.
- The class teacher can help each candidate plan their essay and they can mark one draft of their work and provide feedback in how to improve their work.



# FOLIO



- The final piece should be no longer than 1,300 words. There is a 10% allowance above this, however we try to stick to the advertised word count as much as possible. There is no minimum word count but any piece that is less than 1,000 tends to be self-penalising in our experience.
- The essay will be marked out of 15 marks. Due to the changes, this mark will then be doubled to give the candidate a percentage out of 30.
- Higher average out of 30 = 19.7
- N5 average out of 30 = 21.3

# **SAME COURSE – BIG DIFFERENCE**



- **“HIGHER ENGLISH REQUIRES FAR MORE STUDY AND A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE TEXTS. IT’S A BIG STEP UP FROM NAT 5 IN TERMS OF THE VOLUME OF CONTENT AND THE WORK THAT HAS TO GO IN TO PASS”**

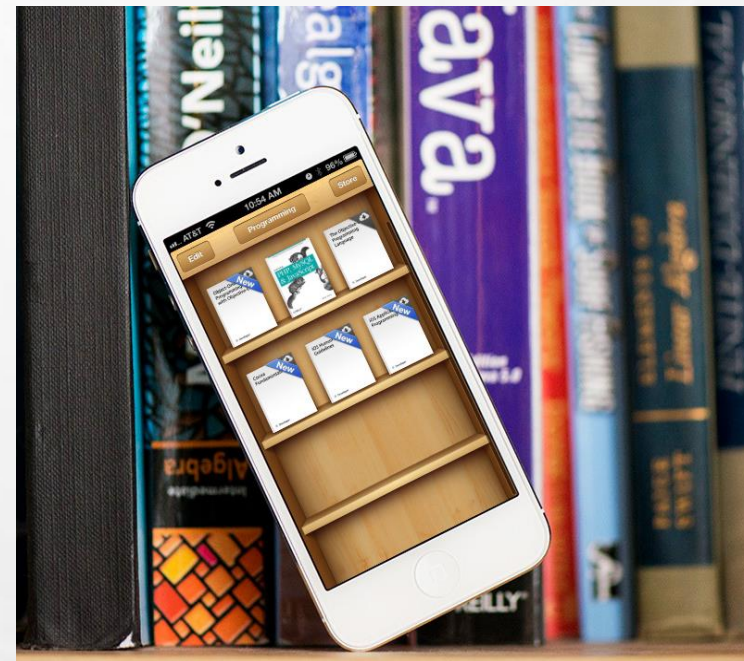
- **“THE BEST THING TO DO IS ASK FOR HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT – YOU’RE NOT ALWAYS GOING TO GET THINGS FIRST TIME AROUND, AND THAT’S OKAY. IF YOU TRY YOUR BEST AND ASK QUESTIONS YOU REALLY CAN’T GO WRONG. JUST MAKE SURE YOU USE THE HELP THAT’S OUT THERE FOR YOU”.**



- **“I LOVED STUDYING MY TEXT THIS YEAR, IT TAUGHT ME IMPORTANT LESSONS ABOUT MORALS AND VALUES. FOR ME, IT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT I PASSED THE FINAL EXAM BUT THIS YEAR IN ENGLISH, I HAVE LEARNED SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST EXAM SKILLS.”**

# HOW CAN YOU HELP?





# **ABOVE ALL READ**

**There really is no substitute for reading when it comes to advancing in English. Reading books develops learners' vocabularies, their imaginations, and their ability to understand complex notions.**

**Now there are more ways than ever to access books: Kindle, iPhone, iPad, Audible, BorrowBox are just a few.**



# INSPIRATION

**T.V. shows and films have fantastic characters, settings, and dialogue. These can be inspiring for learners and can positively influence their imagination. You can talk about the plot, themes and characters with your child.**





**EXCLUSIVE**

**The secret US embassy cables**

£1.00 (FR£1.20)  
Thursday 02.12.10  
Published in London and Manchester  
guardian.co.uk



**Inside** Anatomy of a kleptocracy » Washington's war against WikiLeaks » The truth about Sri Lanka

**Tomorrow**  
**Afghanistan**



**the guardian**

# Inside Putin's 'mafia state'



- **Leaked cables allege rampant corruption**
- **Claims Russian state linked to organised crime**
- **Putin 'has amassed massive secret fortune'**

**Amazon pulls plug on WikiLeaks website**

The United States struck its first blow against WikiLeaks yesterday after Amazon.com pulled the plug on hosting the whistleblowing website in an apparent reaction to political pressure. The main website and a sub-site devoted to the diplomatic documents were unavailable from the US and Europe on Wednesday, as Amazon servers refused to acknowledge requests for data. Earlier, conservatives in the US called for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to be arrested on a spy charge. **Page B3**

**Pakistan's PM under pressure over drones**

Pakistan's prime minister, Yusuf Raza Gilani, said yesterday he was working with the United States to get over the "misconception" made by the WikiLeaks revelations about his country. His comments came as experts in nuclear cover investigations accused that leaked cables exposed a serious threat of nuclear war. **Page B4**

**Cables latest**



**Amazon pulls plug on WikiLeaks website**

The United States struck its first blow against WikiLeaks yesterday after Amazon.com pulled the plug on hosting the whistleblowing website in an apparent reaction to political pressure. The main website and a sub-site devoted to the diplomatic documents were unavailable from the US and Europe on Wednesday, as Amazon servers refused to acknowledge requests for data. Earlier, conservatives in the US called for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to be arrested on a spy charge. **Page B3**

**Pakistan's PM under pressure over drones**

Pakistan's prime minister, Yusuf Raza Gilani, said yesterday he was working with the United States to get over the "misconception" made by the WikiLeaks revelations about his country. His comments came as experts in nuclear cover investigations accused that leaked cables exposed a serious threat of nuclear war. **Page B4**

Continued on page 2 B

# SKY NEWS

## Non-Fiction

One of the best ways to prepare for RUAE is to get used to reading and discussing newspaper articles. This will be the type of article that will be in the exams. Think about the topic being explored and the way the article has been constructed. Has it been successful?

**TAKE AN INTEREST**





# TWITTER



**Braes English&Media** @BraesENG\_MEDIA · 1h

Tips for reading non-fiction - Read the article together and look up any words you don't know. Discuss what the author has said - do you agree or disagree? Explain why. Try to summarise the article in just a few sentences.



1



**Braes English&Media** @BraesENG\_MEDIA · 1h



**Barely any UK teens meeting exercise and screen time guidelines**

Canadian researchers developed guidelines relating to exercise, screen time and sleep

[theguardian.com](https://theguardian.com)



**Braes English&Media** @BraesENG\_MEDIA · 1h

This session we plan to regularly share non-fiction news articles here to offer inspiration for folio writing and as a home learning tool to promote discussion, expand vocabulary and develop RUAE skills for all pupils #folioinspo #literacy

# **FACULTY HELP AND RESOURCES**

- **OPEN DOOR POLICY WITHIN THE FACULTY**
- **AFTER SCHOOL REVISION SESSIONS / STUDY SUPPORT  
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON/STUDY CAMP/EASTER SCHOOL**
- **TWITTER @BRAESENK\_MEDIA**
- **MARK.ROONEY@FALKIRK.GOV.UK**