

National Certificate of Educational Achievement

2011 Assessment Report

German Level 2

- 90401 Listen to and understand spoken language in German in less familiar contexts**
- 90404 Read and understand written language in German in less familiar contexts**
- 90405 Write text in German on a less familiar topic**

COMMENTARY

This was the final year for examinations to assess these achievement standards.

STANDARD REPORTS

90401 Listen to and understand spoken language in German in less familiar contexts

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:

- understood the general sense of the texts
- found straightforward answers to the questions within the texts
- identified and used key words to construct coherent answers.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:

- answered only some questions or parts of questions
- lacked an overall sense of the texts' meaning
- misinterpreted key words
- wrote answers that made little sense.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:

- extracted detailed information via a wider range of vocabulary from the texts
- made connections between relevant sections of the texts
- demonstrated depth in their answers.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:

- used information within the texts to draw their own conclusions
- assessed the relevance of textual information to their answers
- use their grammatical knowledge to extract greater detail from the texts.

90404 Read and understand written language in German in less familiar contexts

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:

- showed understanding of the general sense of the texts
- found straightforward answers to the questions within the texts
- identified and use key words to construct coherent answers.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:

- answered only some questions or parts of questions
- showed a lack of an overall sense of the texts' meaning
- misinterpreted key words
- wrote answers that made little sense.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:

- extracted detailed information via a wider range of vocabulary from the texts
- made connections between relevant sections of the texts
- wrote answers that demonstrated depth.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:

- used information within the texts to draw their own conclusions
- assessed the relevance of textual information to their answers
- used their grammatical knowledge to extract greater detail from the texts.

90405 Write text in German on a less familiar topic

Many candidates took full advantage of the space provided for planning/writing draft copy, and this was reflected in well written text and concomitant good results. It is worth noting that, in all four topics, candidates scored better for the 'Information' component than for the 'Language' and/or 'Communication' components.

The 'Exchange Report' was a popular topic. Many of the candidates seemed to be writing about real rather than imagined experiences; if this is so, then many of our Level 2 students have already had wonderful exchange experiences. Only one or two reported negatively, and then it was only about an individual within the family.

'Teenagers and Stress' was also a popular topic. Most candidates discussed fairly predictable but convincing factors and gave predictable but sensible advice.

'Learning German' candidates overwhelmingly enjoyed learning the language and were very complimentary of their teachers.

Those who chose 'Rugby World Cup' seemed to have seen a lot of the games live.

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:

- wrote well structured answers, with an introduction and conclusion
- addressed most or all of the bullet points
- wrote cohesive and comprehensible German
- demonstrated awareness of formulaic expressions or well learned phrases for presenting information and arguments
- showed awareness of German grammar and structure without necessarily getting them right all the time
- wrote some notes on the planning/drafting page.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:

- wrote very short answers
- wrote German with a lot of English word order
- showed evidence of not having mastered basic grammatical forms e.g. verb endings, adjective endings, capital letters
- showed little or no evidence of planning or drafting.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:

- demonstrated good understanding of German structure and grammar
- wrote well-constructed reports and arguments
- used the planning/drafting page to write notes, often including a checklist of grammar points to include, and points to include in their content.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:

- showed careful planning/drafting/checklists
- showed a very high, but not perfect, command of German structure and grammar
- included learned expressions appropriate for writing at this level
- wrote with flair, including vocabulary and structures beyond level 2.