2025 NCEA Assessment Report

Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Subject: New Zealand Sign Language

Level: 1

Achievement standard(s): 92357, 92358

General commentary

New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) was fully implemented in 2024. Both standards were assessed as submissions, each administered over two 45-minute sessions.

Report on individual achievement standard(s)

Achievement standard 92357: Demonstrate understanding of New Zealand Sign Language related to everyday contexts

Assessment

Candidates watched two short videos signed in NZSL, one video in each session. They then had to answer questions relating to each conversation to demonstrate their understanding of what was signed. Candidates could respond in English, te reo Māori, or NZSL.

Commentary

Candidates who directly addressed the questions did better than those who simply gave an interpretation or direct translation.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- demonstrated a basic understanding of the main ideas in the signed texts, identifying an overall plan, events, and / or intention
- gave partial or no explanations for decisions
- understood the general reason for changing plans but could not provide supporting details.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- demonstrated a good understanding of the main ideas
- explained events and decisions.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- consistently demonstrated comprehensive and accurate understanding of the signed texts
- included all or almost all of the key information and relevant supporting detail
- gave clear, detailed, and well-supported explanations.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- provided responses which included their own explanations of what was understood, rather than using evidence from the signed texts.

Achievement standard 92358: Respond in New Zealand Sign Language related to everyday contexts

Assessment

Candidates responded to questions about a lunch menu in one session and a sequenced storyboard in another session. Responses had to be videos signed in NZSL.

Commentary

Some candidates only submitted one video, which limited the grade available to them.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- narrated what was happening in the images rather than addressing the questions
- relied heavily on fingerspelling, rather than NZSL signs
- used unclear signs or clear signs with incorrect location or movement.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- used facial expressions in conjunction with hand signs
- were able to share basic ideas, opinions, and information without relying too much on fingerspelling.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- used a range of facial expressions when signing
- demonstrated a good use of space and spatial referencing
- used clear and accurate signs and grammatical structures.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- There were no Not Achieved responses in this standard.