

Functional Skills with NOCN from September 2010



What makes us different?

- Centres may choose the dates and times of their assessments
- Smaller centres may have 8 assessment opportunities per skill per academic year
- Large centres may request additional assessment opportunities
- Assessments may take place **throughout the year**



Accessing Level 1 and 2 SL&C Assessments

- Level 1 and 2 Speaking, Listening and Communication assessments may be downloaded from the NOCN website
- Centres may use the NOCN assessments, contextualise them or write their own. It is important that all tasks have a problem solving approach or require the learners to come to a conclusion or a decision.
- Work is assessed against a criteria sheet – marks are NOT allocated at all levels



SLC Record Sheet

Functional Skills Criteria	How candidate met criteria (give examples)
<p>Did the learner understand the main points of short explanations?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Did the learner understand and follow instructions?</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Did the learner respond appropriately to comments and requests</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

E1 SLC



Writing Level 1 and 2

Writing Paper:

Two tasks – one longer than other

Tasks set in context:

You won the competition and went out for a meal. Three of your family fell ill with food poisoning after eating shellfish. Two of them needed hospital treatment. You decide that you will complain about what happened. You feel that your family deserves some compensation. Write a letter setting out what has happened and stating what compensation you feel your family deserves.

How would you approach this task?



Entry Level English

- All assessments downloaded from NOCN website
- May be contextualised using guidelines in markschemes
- May write own assessments – must be checked by NOCN
- Tasks may be split up and/or taken on different days
- Different approach from pilot for Entry 1 and 2 Reading – questions written down for learners

Look at the E1 sample task and see how it is marked.



Level 1 and 2 ICT

- The ICT paper is split into two parts which must be taken back to back. No break is allowed between the two papers. Only use Internet and e-mail in Part A.
- May cover databases, mail merge, letters, articles, spreadsheets, presentations etc. Learners should be well prepared across all types of application.
- Planning document used in all papers – vital marks may be lost if not used.



ICT Specific Information

Entry level

- Have to have access to email, but may be able to complete some of the assessments without access to the internet – centre should check assessment to see what is required
- Some assessments require learners to work with additional files – make sure that all the files for the assessment are downloaded.

Have a look at the E1 task and see how it works.



Mathematics Specific Information

Level 1 and 2

- One theme throughout the paper
- Topics based on everyday situations
- Questions much more open and problem solving
- Each paper contains number, geometry, statistics and algebra (at L2)
- Sample from coverage and range.

**Compare a Level 1 question to see the changes
made since the pilot.**



Mathematics Entry Level

- Entry 1 very tutor mediated – to avoid issues around reading and writing
- All levels more problem solving than in the pilot – allowing learners a choice, leaving them to draw conclusions and make decisions

Have a look at the changes made on some of the questions on the Entry 1 paper



What next?

- Approved sample papers and specifications on website by end of May
- Expecting all qualifications to be approved before Sept
- OCNs accepting new centres for September 2010 starts NOW
- Fast track approval for current pilot centres.
- Training sessions planned over summer.



Any questions?

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