

**Teacher online standardisation – making standardisation more convenient for you**

Launching in December 2010, our teacher online standardisation pilot enables you to review coursework standardisation advice at your convenience.

A total of 12 subjects across GCSE, GCE and ELC will move away from traditional meetings this year, with resources available online 24/7. All teachers in all centres will have access to standardisation material and this can be viewed whenever you like, as often as you choose. All you need to access it is an e-AQA login.

As well as accessing all the traditional advice, you will be able to review exemplar material marked by the Principal Moderator. Additionally, you can mark examples of work online and receive instant feedback with the Principal Moderator's marks and comments.

The new system should be rolled out across more subjects in 2011/12.

Subject staff and coursework advisers will still be there to help you through the standardisation process. This service merely ensures that standardisation material is there at a convenient time for you.

For details of pilot subjects see [aqa.org.uk/tols](http://aqa.org.uk/tols) or view your qualification section below.

**General Certificate of Secondary Education****Teacher online standardisation**

For a number of GCSE components, face-to-face standardisation meetings for new/adjusted schools and colleges are being replaced this year by online standardisation. For more information go to [aqa.org.uk/tols](http://aqa.org.uk/tols)

Pilot subjects are:

- GCSE Science\* (legacy)
- GCSE Design & Technology: Electronic Products
- GCSE Design & Technology: Systems and Control Technology
- GCSE Engineering
- GCSE English A\* (legacy)
- GCSE English B\* (legacy).

\*A limited number of face-to-face meetings will still take place.

**Geography Specification A (4030)****Controlled assessment teacher standardising meetings**

Teacher standardising meetings are running this autumn term for Unit 3 40303 – Controlled Assessment Local Fieldwork Investigation.

Your school/college must send a representative if you are submitting work for the first time in June 2011 and have not attended a standardising meeting for this new specification. Work must be marked so that samples can be sent to the moderator by **7 May 2011**.

If you attended the 2009/10 standardising meetings for this new specification, you do not need to attend again unless you had a significant adjustment to your marks.

Meeting information can be found at: [events.aqa.org.uk/ebooking/](http://events.aqa.org.uk/ebooking/) Go to 'find an event', under 'List of meeting subjects' select 'Geography A GCSE N/S' and then 'search'.

If demand is high, meetings will continue into the spring term; please keep looking on the website for additional dates.

If you have not received details of your Controlled Assessment Adviser, please contact [geographyca@aqa.org.uk](mailto:geographyca@aqa.org.uk) so that we can update our records and send you the necessary information.

**Detailed Schemes of Work now available**

Centres can now access Detailed Schemes of Work for the following topics:

- The Restless Earth
- The Coastal Zone
- Population Change
- Changing Rural Environments
- Globalisation
- Tourism.

These are provided in addition to the existing outline Scheme of Work for the whole specification. The Detailed Schemes of Work include:

- starter ideas
- possible main class activities
- ideas for plenaries
- suggested resources.

They can be found in the Teacher Resource Bank for GCSE Geography specification A from the *Qualifications/GCSEs/Geography/Key materials* section of [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)

Outstanding Detailed Schemes of Work will follow.

**Geography Specification B 4035****Controlled assessment teacher standardising meetings**

Teacher standardising meetings are running this autumn term for Unit 4 (40354) – Controlled Assessment Local Fieldwork Investigation and Geographical Issue Investigation.

Your school/college must send a representative if you are submitting work for the first time in June 2011 and have not attended a standardising meeting for this new specification. Work must be marked so that samples can be sent to the moderator by **7 May 2011**.

If you attended the 2009/10 standardising meetings for this new specification, you do not need to attend again unless you had a significant adjustment to your marks.

Meeting information can be found at: [events.aqa.org.uk/ebooking/](http://events.aqa.org.uk/ebooking/) Go to 'find an event', under 'List of meeting subjects' select 'Geography B GCSE N/S' and then 'search'.

If demand is high, meetings will continue into the spring term; please keep looking on the website for additional dates.

If you have not received details of your Controlled Assessment Adviser, please contact [geographyca@aqa.org.uk](mailto:geographyca@aqa.org.uk) so that we can update our records and send you the necessary information.

**Human Health and Physiology (4415)**

The classification code for this subject has been changed by QCDA from 1030 to **1010**. Candidates who enter for more than one GCSE with the same code will only have their highest grade counted for School and College Performance Tables.

**Leisure and Tourism and Leisure and Tourism (Double Award) (4841) new specification****Teacher standardisation meetings**

Please contact [leisureandtourism@aqa.org.uk](mailto:leisureandtourism@aqa.org.uk) immediately to book a meeting place if:

- your school/college has not attended a teacher standardisation meeting for unit 2 – The nature of leisure and tourism – in 2009/10 or 2010/11
- you have received a 'significantly adjusted' letter for unit 2 and have not yet booked a place
- you are submitting work in summer 2011 for unit 4 – Investigating tourism destinations and impacts.

See section 6.3 of the specification for further information.

## Sample answers and commentaries for 48401

Exemplar scripts and commentaries for 48401 from summer 2010 are now available via *Secure Key Materials* on e-AQA.

**Bengali (4635)**

**Modern Hebrew (4675)**

**Panjabi (4680)**

**Polish (4685)**

From 2011 we will not supply cassette tapes or any other media for recording Speaking Tests.

We recommend that you use the free Audacity software to record Speaking Tests. To download this, please visit the Audacity website. Further information can be found at [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk). Recordings made using Audacity must be saved as an .mp3 file and not as an .aup file.

We accept recordings of Speaking Tests on cassette tapes, CDs or memory sticks. We do not accept Speaking Tests on other media.

**Chinese (Mandarin) (4670)**

**French (4655)**

**German (4665)**

**Italian (4630)**

**Spanish (4695)**

**Urdu (4645)**

Hard copy Task Planning Forms for the 2011 exam will be sent to schools/colleges in late November 2010. These must only be used with candidates submitting controlled assessment tasks to us in summer 2011.

For candidates in Year 10, submitting controlled assessment tasks in summer 2012, Task Planning Forms are available from the *Administration/Procedures/Coursework administration* section of [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk). These Task Planning Forms must be used for summer 2012 as they reflect the guidance issued in *AQA Examinations Update Issue 8* (ie visuals of any kind are not permitted).

## General Certificate of Education

### Teacher online standardisation

For a number of GCE components, face-to-face standardisation meetings for new/adjusted schools and colleges are being replaced this year by online standardisation. For more information go to [aqa.org.uk/tols](http://aqa.org.uk/tols)

Pilot subjects include GCE Applied Art & Design.

### Archaeology (2010)

#### ARCH1 Section B Prescribed Sites

As stated in the GCE Archaeology specification, the prescribed sites in ARCH1 (Section B) are changed every three years.

**The following sites will be tested up to and including June 2011:**

#### Prehistoric Europe 30 000BC to AD43

- Lascaux Cave
- Stonehenge
- Newgrange
- Wetwang Slack
- Flag Fen

**Ancient Egypt 3000BC to 50BC**

- Karnak
- The tomb of Ramesses VI (KV9) in the Valley of the Kings
- Medinet Habu
- Abydos
- The Great Pyramid at Giza

**Roman Europe 753BC to AD410**

- Temple of Vesta in Rome
- Temple of Mithras, Carrawburgh
- Water Newton
- Lullingstone Villa
- The Villa of the Mysteries at Pompeii.

**The following sites will be tested from January 2012 to June 2014:**

**Prehistoric Europe 30 000BC to AD43**

- Vedbaek
- Thornborough
- Maeshowe
- Hochdorf
- The Bronze Age timber circle at Holme-next-the-Sea (Seahenge)

**Ancient Egypt 3000BC to 50BC**

- Temple of Horus at Edfu
- The tomb of Tutankhamun (KV62)
- Saqqara step pyramid
- Tel el-Amarna
- Tomb of Nebamun

**Roman Europe 753BC to AD410**

- Uley
- Roman Lady from Spitalfields Market
- Temple of Apollo at Pompeii
- Temple complex at Bath
- Coventina's Well and the Shrine of Antenociticus at Benwell.

**Citizenship Studies AS/A (1101/2101)**

The specification for AS/A-level Citizenship has a few minor amendments. Please ensure you are using version 1.2 in your teaching.

The changes are as follows:

- 'The role of judges' has been added to page 14, The structure of the judiciary and how judges are appointed.
- The first bullet point in the section on page 16 on The UK relationship to international organisations now reads: 'The current role of the UK within key international organisations, including NATO and the United Nations.'

**Government and Politics AS/A (1151/2151)**

The specification for AS/A-level Government and Politics has a few minor amendments. The changes are side-lined for easy reference. Please ensure you are using version 1.2 in your teaching.

## Law AS/A (1161/2161)

The specification for AS/A-level Law has a few minor amendments. The changes are side-lined for easy reference. Please ensure you are using version 1.2 in your teaching.

### University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education annual conference

The University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education is holding its annual conference for teachers of A-level Law on Thursday 31 March and Thursday 1 April. Delegates will be able to discuss legal issues with senior lecturers from the University of Cambridge, senior examiners and guest speakers.

#### Who is it for?

- AS and A2 Law teachers
- Teachers of other law courses in further education and sixth form colleges

#### Reduced rates available

If your employer is a UK state school or a UK state FE institution, you qualify for a £280 bursary, making the conference fee £420 (residential) or £345 (non-residential). Funding for these bursaries is from the university's HEIF4 (Higher Education Innovation Fund Round 4) allocation.

To book, please call 01223 760 860 or e-mail [profstudies@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:profstudies@ice.cam.ac.uk)

## Music (2270)

### New set works

There will be a new set work for AS Music from 2012. For the June 2012 exam and until further notice the AS set work will be:

- Beethoven - Symphony No 1, movements 1 and 2.

For A2 there will be new set works from 2013. For the June 2013 exam and until further notice the set works for A2 will be:

- Elgar – Symphony No 1
- Shostakovich – Symphony No 5.

## Other qualifications

### Teacher online standardisation

For a number of ELC components, face-to-face standardisation meetings for new/adjusted schools and colleges are being replaced this year by online standardisation. For more information go to [aqa.org.uk/tols](http://aqa.org.uk/tols)

Pilot subjects for Entry Level Certificates are: French, German, Spanish, Italian and Chinese (Mandarin).

### Functional ICT Level 1 (4527), Level 2 (4528)

In the recently despatched *Entry Codes All examination series 2010–2011* booklet, the information for Functional ICT was unconfirmed.

The following has now been confirmed:

Level 1 Entry Code: 4527

Level 2 Entry Code: 4528

In the first year, assessment will be available in January and June. From November 2011, it will be available four times each academic year.

## Key Skills and Basic Skills

### Basic Skills (8990)

### Key Skills (9900) (KS2004)

### Wider Key Skills (9970) (KS2004)

#### The Key and Basic Skills timetable 2010–11

The revised timetable for 2010–11, with entry and results dates, has been sent to all Key and Basic and Wider Key Skills schools/colleges. All tests for the May series have been withdrawn and Level 4 tests are no longer available.

#### The future of Key, Basic and Wider Key Skills

Functional Skills will gradually replace some of the Key Skills qualifications. Wider Key Skills at Levels 1–4 and Key Skills at Levels 1, 2 and 3 will be available in the January, March and June 2011 series. Centres are requested to check with their funding provider that funding will be available for their Key Skills learners. Key Skills tests and portfolio moderation will no longer be offered after June 2011 but certificates may be claimed up until June 2012. Basic Skills (Adult Literacy at Levels 1 and 2) will continue until June 2012.

#### ICT tests Level Three and Four data files

The new set of data files for the 2011 test series is available from [www.qcda.gov.uk](http://www.qcda.gov.uk)

The 2010–11 data files may be given to candidates in read-only format as early as possible to help them develop practical skills in preparation for the tests. Candidates must not be given prior knowledge of which data files are to be used in any of the tests. This ensures their preparation is broadly based rather than focused on a particular context.

Please delete the data files downloaded for 2009–10 from your network. Although data files may appear the same as last year, new scenarios have been added and some deleted.

#### Teacher standardising meetings

All Key Skills schools/colleges unable to send representatives to the November teacher standardising meetings may attend additional meetings in January 2011 which we intend to run, should there be sufficient demand. They will cover the assessment of portfolio work in Application of Number, Communication, and Information and Communication Technology. Delegates may choose which session(s) to attend. All schools/colleges which have previously made entries in these subjects have been invited. A list of Key Skills standardising meetings and locations is on the website. Please contact [keyskills@aqa.org.uk](mailto:keyskills@aqa.org.uk) for further details.

#### Administration Handbook for Key Skills 2011

The new *Administration Handbook* for Key Skills 2011 is now available from the *Qualifications/Other/Key Skills* section of [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk). It includes extra information, particularly on exam administration, but does not denote a change from previous practice.

#### Updated AQA Basic Skills specification 2010.

The AQA Basic Skills specification 2010 is available from the *Qualifications/Other/Key Skills* section of [aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)

There are no changes to the teaching and learning aspect of the Basic Skills specification, although other minor changes do appear.



