You are already familiar with the **National 5 course**

1 internal assessment – Spoken Performance – assessed as Pass or Fail/Ongoing

You had to pass 4 outcomes through either a solo presentation or through group discussion

Your final grade was made up of:

**Folio (30%)**

2 pieces, each 1000 words maximum

One creative (personal reflective, short story, drama, poetry, monologue)

One discursive (persuasive, argumentative, report)

**Exam (70%)**

Paper I: Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

Close reading of a news article from a quality broadsheet with a series of questions – 1 hour, 30 marks

Paper II: Critical Reading

1 Scottish Text on a previously studied passage/poem (Final 8 mark question)

1 Critical Essay on a different genre

**The Higher Course** is very similar in structure but very different in terms of level of difficulty.

Again, there is one internal assessment – Spoken Performance. Your first attempt to pass this will be before the summer break.

The 4 assessment criteria to pass the Spoken Performance part of the course are:

* employ relevant detailed and **complex** ideas and/or information using a structure appropriate to purpose and audience
* communicate meaning effectively through the selection and use of detailed and **complex** spoken language
* use aspects of non-verbal communication
* demonstrate listening skills by responding to detailed and **complex** spoken language

NB: Note the use of the word ‘complex’ which did not appear in the National 5 outcomes

Your final grade is made up of:

**Folio (30%)**

2 pieces, each 1300 words maximum

One creative (personal reflective, short story, drama, poetry, monologue)

One discursive (persuasive, argumentative, report)

**Exam (80%)**

**Paper 1: Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation**

Read and answer questions on 2 thematically linked passages

30 marks – 25 on passage 1 and a 5 mark comparison question

1 hr 30 mins

Note that there are no marks for quotation in the Higher Paper. This is also the case for your Scottish text. Selecting quotes may have accounted for more than a third of your RUAE marks at National 5 and half of the marks in your Nat 5 Scottish Text responses.

**Paper 2: Critical Reading**

1 hour 30 minutes

1 Scottish Text (final 10 mark question)

1 Critical Essay on a different genre