Moderators' Report/
Principal Moderator Feedback

November 2014

GCSE English Language (5EN3A)
Spoken Language

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General Overview

5EN3A comprises of two pieces of writing, both set by Edexcel, which are internally assessed and externally moderated (48 marks total available):

- **One Spoken Language Study** (24 marks available): a commentary on two examples of spontaneous spoken language which the candidates have chosen and studied in advance. Centres may use their own sources or those provided by Edexcel but must choose to respond to one of two topics set by Edexcel.
The candidates have two hours to produce a piece of writing of up to 1000 words.

    Candidates should exemplify and demonstrate their understanding of:
    - o The way spoken language works
    - o How language changes according to context
    - o The ways in which language use may influence other speakers and listeners.

- **One Writing for the Spoken Voice task** (16 marks available for A04 i and ii and 8 marks available for A04 iii technical accuracy): the candidates have two hours to produce a piece of writing of up to 1000 words. Candidates must respond to one out of three tasks which are set by Edexcel.

    Candidates should:
    - o Express ideas that are relevant
    - o Have a clear sense of purpose and audience
    - o Select vocabulary for effect
    - o Organise their writing appropriately
    - o Candidates should also use accurate spelling and punctuation and demonstrate a range of sentence structures.

Spoken Language Study Task:

Candidates engaged well with the tasks set by Edexcel for November 2014 entry which were the same as those for November 2013 and May 2014:

EITHER:

Using two examples of spontaneous spoken language, comment on how the speakers adapt their language to different situations.

OR:

Using two examples of spontaneous spoken language, comment on how the language is used in two different regions.

Writing for the Spoken Voice:

Candidates engaged well with the tasks set by Edexcel for November 2014 which were the same as those set for November 2013 and May 2014:

EITHER:

Write a script for a monologue / radio drama / TV soap (30 seconds - 2minutes of spoken language)

OR

Write the text for a podcast (up to 1000 words) for an audience of your choice on a topic that interests you.

OR

Write a short story (up to 1000 words) in which character is developed through dialogue.

Spoken Language Study

The first task option, "…how speakers adapt their language to different situations" was the most popular choice in the November 2014 session. Many centres used the transcripted resources produced by Edexcel which allowed full exploration of the assessment criteria; some centres also provided their own well-chosen resources which also allowed candidates similar scope. Popular transcripts in November 2014 were excerpts from Educating Essex/Yorkshire and The Apprentice, I'm a Celebrity and cookery commentaries from Jamie Oliver and Nigella Lawson; some centres used YouTube transcripts.

Most candidates performed well against the assessment criteria, demonstrating understanding of how language changes according to context and explaining clearly how language works. Some candidates, however, still made comparison of the sources their focus rather than providing an analysis of how language was adapted in each source separately. There was still some reliance on identifying or "spotting" features of spoken language, using a wide range of technical vocabulary, without analysing the uses and effects of the features.

Writing for the Spoken Voice

The range of Edexcel tasks allowed centres to select appropriately for their candidature. All tasks were responded to and candidates produced some interesting writing. In the November 2014 session, the Podcast option was the most popular task choice; candidates were able to research and write about their own interests and to adopt registers appropriate for their intended podcast audiences. Narrative writing in which character was developed through dialogue was also a popular option this session. Effective monologues were also submitted.

The Spoken Language Study and Writing for the Spoken Voice tasks were accessible at all levels of candidature and a wide range of marks were awarded.

Administrative issues

Centres are reminded to use the Edexcel 5EN3A Candidate Controlled Assessment Forms. There is no need to send speaking and listening forms to the 5EN3A moderator.

Centres are asked to send the work of the highest and lowest candidates to the moderator in addition to the selected sample.

Moderators greatly appreciate summative comments and annotations on the controlled assessment responses; please note that comments should be addressed to the moderator and not the candidate.

Clear evidence of internal assessment aids the moderation process.

Moderators appreciate work which is fastened with treasury tags.

Advice for future sessions

Spoken Language Study

There is no requirement to compare the two sources.

Chosen sources should comprise spontaneous speech situations.

Writing for the Spoken Voice

Ask candidates to indicate audience and purpose and to demonstrate this within the response.

Remind candidates that the focus of this task requires writing for the **spoken** voice.

Encourage candidates to proof-read their responses before submission.