

NATIONALS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Media National 5

MEDIA
LANGUAGES

NATIONAL
5

2
UNITS

ANALYSING MEDIA CONTENT
CREATING MEDIA CONTENT

+
COURSE
ASSESSMENT

COURSE ASSESSMENT: ASSIGNMENT, CASE STUDY + QUESTION PAPER

What skills will my child develop?

- the ability to analyse media content in detail and to create more complex media content
- knowledge of the role of media within society
- the ability to comment on media production processes
- knowledge of contextual factors, constraints and freedoms affecting producers of media content
- critical thinking about the media and its role in every day life
- an appreciation of media content in cultural and media contexts (print, broadcast, web-based)
- using different media effectively for learning and communication
- knowledge of key aspects of media (eg language, representation, audience)
- critical and creative thinking skills



WHAT WILL MY CHILD EXPERIENCE DURING THE COURSE?

- Active and independent learning through self and peer evaluations, reflecting on learning, setting targets, critiques and using feedback
- A blend of classroom approaches including visits and real life contexts such as interviewing members of the community; filming outdoors; reporting real events; teamwork; whole class learning; discussion and debate
- Collaborative learning: in groups and with others locally, nationally and internationally using blogs as digital scrapbooks, wikis
- Space for personalisation and choice: as well as choices embedded in Units, learners may choose their Assignment topic
- Applying learning
- Embedding literacy skills: researching, presenting and creating in a variety of media; evaluating; communicating.

ASSESSMENT

- To gain National 5, learners must pass all Units and the Course Assessment (Assignment, Case Study and Question Paper)
- Units are assessed as pass or fail by the school/centre (following SQA external quality assurance to meet national standards)
- Unit assessment (or 'evidence of learning') will involve the completion of media production tasks or activities which may be evidenced in digital texts, presentations, a video, discussions, extended writing, multi-modal notes or podcasts. A portfolio of work may be prepared
- The Course Assessment consists of an Assignment (marked by the SQA), a Case Study (internally assessed in accordance with SQA guidelines) and a Question Paper (exam marked by the SQA). The Assignment will require learners to create media content to a brief; the Case Study will require analysis of a media text. The Course Assessment will be graded A to D.

DISCUSSION IN THE CLASSROOM

We had the option of filming a promotional video for a local band or one for a local tourist attraction. My group opted to promote the band, some of whom attended our school. We met with the band to devise a brief, and discussed the image they wanted to portray of the band and the nature of the song that was to be featured. We agreed to come back to them with some proposals. We prepared a story board of key scenes and suggested a location. The band loved our ideas. That turned out to be the easy bit – filming was much more challenging! The video is now on YouTube.



National 5 progresses onto Media Higher

For more detailed course information:

SQA: Media National 5: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47414.html

Education Scotland: www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/index.asp

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf



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