



National  
Qualifications  
2024

---

**2024 English**

**Reading for Understanding, Analysis and  
Evaluation**

**National 5**

**Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions**

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2024

These marking instructions have been prepared by examination teams for use by SQA appointed markers when marking external course assessments.

The information in this document may be reproduced in support of SQA qualifications only on a non-commercial basis. If it is reproduced, SQA must be clearly acknowledged as the source. If it is to be reproduced for any other purpose, written permission must be obtained from [permissions@sqa.org.uk](mailto:permissions@sqa.org.uk).



## General marking principles for National 5 English: Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

*This information is provided to help you understand the general principles you must apply when marking candidate responses to questions in this paper. These principles must be read in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidate responses.*

- (a) Marks for each candidate response must **always** be assigned in line with these general marking principles and the detailed marking instructions for this assessment.
- (b) Marking should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.
- (c) If a specific candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (d) Candidates should gain credit for their understanding of the ideas of the passage, and their analysis and evaluation of the writer's use of language.
- (e) Unless quoting from the passage, the candidates should use their own words as far as possible.

*The following notes are offered to support markers in making judgements on candidates' evidence.*

## Marking instructions for each question

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)     | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|--------------------------|----------|---|
| 1.       |  |  | Any <b>three</b> points. | <b>3</b> | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘stopped a stranger’ glossed by eg she approached someone she didn’t know/someone random <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• ‘compliment (her outfit)’/‘she was dressed in such a lovely way and I just had to tell her that’ glossed by eg she said something nice to the woman/she said she had nice clothes <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• ‘but that wasn’t the point’ glossed by eg the benefits were subtle/not immediately obvious <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• ‘Dashing home’ glossed by eg she was in a hurry/short of time <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• ‘(she had noticed) the woman’s harassed look’ glossed by eg the woman appeared stressed/it was an attempt to reduce someone’s stress OR the woman appeared unapproachable <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• ‘(she had noticed) the woman’s . . . slow, defeated steps.’/‘The weight of the world was on her shoulders’ glossed by eg the woman’s mood was low/it was an attempt to lift the woman’s mood <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• ‘told herself how bad she looked’ glossed by eg the woman wasn’t feeling confident/was unhappy with her appearance <b>(1)</b></li> </ul> |

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)               | Max mark | Additional guidance  |
|----------|--|--|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| 2.       |  |  | Reference (1)<br>Comment (1)<br>x2 | 4        | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘stealth’ (1) suggests eg secretive (1)</li> <li>• ‘angel (of good deeds)’ (1) suggests eg she is superhuman/divine/benevolent (1)</li> <li>• ‘suffered’/‘depression’ (1) suggests eg she was motivated by previous negative experiences (1)</li> <li>• ‘her calling’ (1) suggests eg she has a mission (1)</li> <li>• ‘(bring some) sunshine’ (1) suggests eg she wants to cheer people up (1)</li> <li>• ‘a nice word’/‘Compliments’ (1) suggests eg she dispenses positive messages/thoughts (1)</li> <li>• ‘(Compliments) passed on’ (1) suggests eg she repeats/continues (the good deed) (1)</li> <li>• ‘about their shoes, hairstyle, jewellery or smile’/reference to list (1) suggests/emphasises eg she praises different things/a range of things/she notices (significant) details (1)</li> <li>• ‘(she) melts (back into the city streets)’ (1) suggests eg she disappears (afterwards) (1)</li> <li>• ‘unnamed’/‘untraceable’/‘anonymously’/‘The point is not to be known’ (1) suggests eg she doesn’t reveal or identify who she is/doesn’t want any credit (1)</li> <li>• ‘returns’/‘holds’ (1) suggests eg she is proactive/helpful/mannerly (1)</li> <li>• ‘neighbours’/‘strangers’ (1) suggests eg she helps those close to her/those unknown to her/everyone (1)</li> <li>• ‘(make the world) a slightly nicer place’/‘do a little something’ (1) suggests eg she believes even small things help (1)</li> <li>• ‘life philosophy’ (1) suggests eg doing ‘good deeds’ is integral to her being (1)</li> <li>• ‘radiating’ (1) suggests eg she gives out warmth (1)</li> <li>• ‘gratitude’ (1) suggests eg she promotes the idea of being thankful (1)</li> </ul> |

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)  | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|---|----------|---|
| 3.       |  |  | Any pair <b>OR</b> two correct selections covering different directions | 2        | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Voluntary giving’ links back (1) to ‘anonymously returns (neighbours’ wandering wheelie bins)’ <b>OR</b> ‘holds doors open for strangers’ <b>OR</b> ‘good deeds’ <b>OR</b> ‘do a little something for someone else’ <b>OR</b> ‘make the world a slightly nicer place’ <b>OR</b> ‘(human) kindness’ <b>OR</b> paraphrase of any of the above</li> <li>• ‘(improve a giver’s own) wellbeing’ links forward (1) to ‘stimulates activity in brain regions’ <b>OR</b> ‘(associated with) pleasure’ <b>OR</b> ‘(associated with) . . . reward’ <b>OR</b> ‘reduces stress levels’ <b>OR</b> ‘long-term improvements’ <b>OR</b> ‘life satisfaction’ <b>OR</b> paraphrase of any of the above</li> <li>• ‘Voluntary giving’ links back (1) ‘(improve a giver’s own) wellbeing’ links forward (1)</li> </ul> |

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)               | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|------------------------------------|----------|---|
| 4.       |  |  | Reference (1)<br>Comment (1)<br>x2 | 4        | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘new breed of ‘good Samaritan’’ (1) suggests eg that the positive image of giving has been misrepresented (1)<br/>NB ‘new breed of ‘good Samaritan’’ needed in its entirety</li> <li>• ‘swaggered’ (1) suggests eg arrogance (1)</li> <li>• ‘toting’ (1) suggests eg aggressive display (1)</li> <li>• ‘wads (of cash)’ (1) suggests eg it’s excessive (1)</li> <li>• ‘(his) targets’ (1) suggests eg exploitation (1)</li> <li>• ‘films himself’/‘broadcasted’ (1) suggests eg self-promotion/need to let everyone know what you are doing (1)</li> <li>• ‘(films himself) hovering behind (unsuspecting shoppers)’ (1) suggests eg methods sound invasive (1)</li> <li>• ‘unsuspecting (shoppers)’/‘unwitting (recipients)’ (1) suggests eg permission is not sought/agreed (1)</li> <li>• ‘showy’ (gifting)/‘boasters’ (1) suggests eg attention seeking (1)</li> <li>• ‘rebranding (acts of kindness)’ (1) suggests eg distortion (1)</li> <li>• ‘(humanitarian) drama’ (1) suggests eg entertainment/sensationalism (1)</li> <li>• ‘charitable boasters’/reference to oxymoron (1) suggests eg motives not being what they seem (1)</li> <li>• ‘enhance our reputation’ (1) suggests eg motivation (for generosity) comes from what others think of you (1)</li> </ul> |

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s) | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|----------------------|----------|---|
| 5.       |  |  | Any six points.      | 6        | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘finds TikTok’s loadsamoney (random kindness) actors “a bit crass, to say the least”’ glossed by eg she believes that some social media figures are false/insensitive/showing off (1)</li> <li>• ‘subscribes to the “pay it forward” philosophy’/‘the happy recipient of a good deed will be prompted to go on and perform a good deed’ glossed by eg she agrees with the belief that if someone receives generosity they will go and do similar themselves (1)</li> <li>• ‘global chain of kindness’ glossed by eg she believes that generosity should spread to everyone (1)</li> <li>• ‘leaves money for fares taped to bus stops’/‘bunches of flowers...on park benches’/ ‘heartwarming notes on park benches’ glossed by eg she deliberately places presents/items in public places/ for anyone to find (1) <b>OR</b> successful gloss of one example (eg money, flowers, notes) (1)</li> <li>• ‘secrecy is both the key to being a genuine good Samaritan’/“I would love to pay. . . .not to be caught in the act”’ glossed by eg she believes being nice to others should be done without attention being drawn to it <b>OR</b> she would cover the cost of strangers’ purchases but only if unnoticed (1)</li> <li>• ‘she promised to perform 40 anonymous good deeds in 40 days’ glossed by eg she made a commitment to do as many nice things as she could do/should do (1)</li> <li>• ‘encouraging her friends to do the same’ glossed by eg she wanted others to join her way of life (1)</li> <li>• ‘rather than buying her gifts’ glossed by eg she did not want presents/celebrates her birthday with charity (1)</li> </ul> |

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)               | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|------------------------------------|----------|---|
|          |  |  |                                    |          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ““Even small gestures, I really recommend them”” glossed by eg she believes little things are worthwhile/should not be dismissed (1)</li> <li>• ““it makes my heart feel really full”” glossed by eg helping others has a very positive effect on her (1) NB intensifier needed</li> </ul>   |
| 6.       |  |  | Reference (1)<br>Comment (1)<br>x2 | 4        | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘power’ (1) suggests eg strength (of good deeds done in secret) (1)</li> <li>• ‘anonymous’ (1) suggests eg unnamed action (1)</li> <li>• ‘(understood by) many cultures’/reference to (series of) examples from religions/groups/list (1) suggests/emphasises eg this belief is widely accepted (1)</li> <li>• ‘(Allah will) “grant shade”’ (1) suggests eg higher reward/spiritual protection (for keeping good deeds secret) (1)</li> <li>• ‘conceals’ (1) suggests eg hidden/unknown (1)</li> <li>• ““the left hand does not know what the right has given”” (1) suggests eg keeping intentions secret (1)</li> <li>• ‘unreciprocated (giving)’ (1) suggests eg not expecting anything in return (1)</li> <li>• ““Do not your good works in public””/use of quotation from the Bible (1) suggests eg there should be no show/display involved when giving (1)</li> <li>• ‘avoiding. . . . “the trumpet fanfare”’ (1) suggests eg not making yourself noticeable when giving (1)</li> <li>• ‘humble’ (1) suggests eg modest (1)</li> <li>• ‘daily “good turn”’(1) suggests eg habitual/routine (1)</li> </ul> |



| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)     | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|--------------------------|----------|---|
| 7.       |  |  | Any <b>three</b> points. | <b>3</b> | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘boost their own sense of self-worth’ glossed by eg helps you feel better about yourself (1)</li> <li>• ‘performing small good deeds as a daily practice’ glossed by eg routine generosity can be valuable (1)</li> <li>• ‘. . . feel like their lives aren’t worthwhile. . . The antidote to this’ glossed by eg it’s a cure for/helps people who don’t have a sense of purpose (1)</li> <li>• ‘smiling at a glum-looking shop worker’ / ‘complimenting someone’s shoes’ glossed by eg could cheer up someone else (1)</li> <li>• ‘It creates so much more good in the world’ glossed by eg generosity is beneficial to everyone (1)</li> <li>• ‘much greater sense of joy’ glossed by eg it is associated with increased happiness (1)</li> <li>• ‘than the things many people think they should pursue’ glossed by eg it is more genuinely good for you than other things that are seemingly attractive/necessary (1)</li> </ul> |

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)   | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|--|----------|---|
| 8.       |  |  | <p>Any <b>two</b> points.</p> <p><b>NB</b> 'worry' or 'worried' without explanation or intensifier is insufficient</p> | 2        | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'concerned they were poisoned' glossed by eg recipient might be worried by the possibility of harmful intentions/ wrongdoing/malice <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• 'anonymous gifts' / 'no stated sender' glossed by eg recipient might be worried not knowing where they came from <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• 'as she was quite paranoid' glossed by eg the recipient might develop unnecessary fear/be worried for no reason <b>OR</b> experience excessive worry/anxiety <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• 'refused to eat them' glossed by eg recipient will not accept gift <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• 'I had to confess all' glossed by eg secrecy might not work/is not welcome/giver might have to end up explaining <b>(1)</b></li> <li>• 'I had to t. . . alk her down' glossed by eg giver might have to deal with a strong negative reaction <b>(1)</b></li> </ul> |

| Question |  |  | Expected response(s)   | Max mark | Additional guidance   |
|----------|--|--|--|----------|---|
| 9.       |  |  | <p>Selection (1)<br/>Comment (1)</p> <p><b>NB</b> do not reward a response which simply says 'it sums up the main ideas of the passage etc' unless the candidate goes on to explain what the main idea is.</p> | 2        | <p><b>Possible answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'her complimenting career' (1) repeats the idea of 'compliment her outfit' / 'Compliments passed on' etc (1)</li> <li>• reference to Marilyn Devonish example (1) repeats earlier example involving Marilyn Devonish (1)</li> <li>• 'very smartly dressed man' (1) repeats the idea of 'stylish, co-ordinated purple jacket and shoes' / 'dressed in such a lovely way' (1)</li> <li>• 'he looks amazing' (1) repeats the idea of 'dressed in such a lovely way' (1)</li> <li>• 'I just have to tell him' (1) repeats the idea of 'I just had to tell her that' / 'sees it as her calling' etc (1)</li> <li>• 'The beneficiary of Devonish's effusive praise' (1) repeats the idea of 'the subject of her attention (was taken aback)' (1)</li> <li>• 'Devonish's effusive praise' (1) repeats earlier examples of her generosity (1)</li> <li>• 'smiled (graciously)' (1) repeats idea of positive effects of compliments (1)</li> <li>• 'It turns out' (1) repeats the idea of 'can backfire' (1)</li> <li>• 'It turns out he was the famous fashion designer' / 'Ozwald Boateng' (1) gives the idea of humour or irony (1)</li> <li>• 'He was well aware he looked fabulous!' (1) repeats earlier idea of 'told herself how bad she looked' / use of humour (1)</li> </ul> |

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]