



# Advanced Higher English

## Understanding Standards

### Marks and genre

This document provides an overview of marks for Advanced Higher English candidate evidence published on SQA's Understanding Standards website. Marks for Literary study, Textual analysis, portfolio–writing and portfolio–dissertation are broken down by genre and listed in ascending order.

You can find the resources on the [Advanced Higher English Understanding Standards](#) page of our website.

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## Literary study

### Poetry

Marks	Author	Understanding Standards identifier
6 marks	W B Yeats	Candidate 7/2022
8 marks	Carol Ann Duffy	Candidate 6/2022
10 marks	Seamus Heaney	Candidate 3/2022
12 marks	Carol Ann Duffy	Candidate 8/2016
13 marks	John Donne	Candidate 2/2016
13 marks	Seamus Heaney	Candidate 2/2022
15 marks	T S Eliot	Candidate 4/2022
16 marks	Seamus Heaney	Candidate 4/2016
18 marks	T S Eliot	Candidate 5/2022
20 marks	Seamus Heaney	Candidate 1/2022

### Prose fiction

Mark	Author	Understanding Standards identifier
9 marks	Charles Dickens	Candidate 7/2016
11 marks	Edith Wharton	Candidate A/2021
12 marks	Charlotte Brontë and Daphne Du Maurier	Candidate 1/2024
15 marks	Thomas Hardy	Candidate 3/2016
18 marks	Edith Wharton	Candidate B/2021
20 marks	E M Forster	Candidate 10/2017

### Drama

Mark	Texts or author	Understanding Standards identifier
10 marks	<i>King Lear</i> and <i>Hamlet</i>	Candidate 1/2016
15 marks	Liz Lochhead	Candidate 9/2016
18 marks	Tennessee Williams	Candidate 5/2016
20 marks	<i>A Winter's Tale</i> and <i>The Tempest</i>	Candidate 11/2017

### Prose non-fiction

Mark	Authors	Understanding Standards identifier
6 marks	Hilary Anderson and Luke Mogelson	Candidate 6/2016

## Textual analysis

### Poetry

Mark	Text and author	Understanding Standards identifier
6 marks	'Sticklebacks' by John Burnside	Candidate 1/2023
11 marks	'The Phantom Horsewoman' by Thomas Hardy	Candidate 9/2016
14 marks	'The Phantom Horsewoman' by Thomas Hardy	Candidate 1/2016
20 marks	'The Phantom Horsewoman' by Thomas Hardy	Candidate 2/2016

### Prose fiction

Mark	Text and author	Understanding Standards identifier
6 marks	<i>Miss Brill</i> by Katherine Mansfield	Candidate 2/2022
14 marks	<i>Explaining Death to the Dog</i> by Susan Perabo	Candidate 4/2016
16 marks	<i>Explaining Death to the Dog</i> by Susan Perabo	Candidate 3/2016
20 marks	<i>Explaining Death to the Dog</i> by Susan Perabo	Candidate 10/2016
20 marks	<i>South Riding</i> by Winifred Holtby	Candidate 11/2017

### Drama

Mark	Text and author	Understanding Standards identifier
9 marks	<i>The Hard Problem</i> by Tom Stoppard	Candidate 8/2016
12 marks	<i>The Amen Corner</i> by James Baldwin	Candidate A/2021
18 marks	<i>The Hard Problem</i> by Tom Stoppard	Candidate 6/2016
18 marks	<i>Buried Child</i> by Sam Shepard	Candidate 12/2017
18 marks	<i>The Amen Corner</i> by James Baldwin	Candidate B/2021
20 marks	<i>The Architect</i> by David Greig	Candidate 1/2022

### Prose non-fiction

Mark	Text and author	Understanding Standards identifier
10 marks	<i>H is for Hawk</i> by Helen Macdonald	Candidate 5/2016
15 marks	'Minor Venetians' by Jan Morris	Candidate 2/2023
18 marks	<i>H is for Hawk</i> by Helen Macdonald	Candidate 7/2016

## Portfolio–writing

### Reflective writing

Mark	Title	Understanding Standards identifier
6 marks	15, 5, 20...	Candidate 12/2016
8 marks	Old Yellow Bricks	Candidate 4/2016
9 marks	12-year old Feminist Self	Candidate 1/2021
13 marks	Ruby Jubilee	Candidate 2/2021
15 marks	Old St. Paul's	Candidate 3/2021

### Prose fiction

Mark	Title	Understanding Standards identifier
9 marks	Inner Demons	Candidate 6/2016
12 marks	White Rose	Candidate 10/2016
15 marks	Split Infinities	Candidate 9/2016
15 marks	Blood	Candidate 1/2019
15 marks	Heavenly Fables	Candidate 7/2016

### Drama

Mark	Title	Understanding Standards identifier
11 marks	Corruption	Candidate 5/2016

### Poetry

Mark	Title	Understanding Standards identifier
12 marks	Boy Soldier	Candidate 3/2016
15 marks	Celestial	Candidate 2/2016
15 marks	Sonderkommando	Candidate 11/2016

### Persuasive

Mark	Title	Understanding Standards identifier
10 marks	Public Profile over Policy?	Candidate 1/2016
14 marks	Alan Kurdi: A Political Chaos	Candidate 8/2016

### Informative

Mark	Title	Understanding Standards identifier
15 marks	Golden Note	Candidate 2/2019

## Project–dissertation

### Prose fiction

Mark	Texts and authors	Understanding Standards identifier
8 marks	<i>The Cement Garden</i> and <i>Atonement</i> by Ian McEwan	Candidate 8/2016
10 marks	<i>The Secret History</i> by Donna Tartt	Candidate 1/2022
12 marks	<i>Dracula</i> by Bram Stoker and <i>Interview with the Vampire</i> by Anne Rice	Candidate 1/2024
14 marks	<i>Tess of the d'Urbervilles</i> and <i>Far from the Madding Crowd</i> by Thomas Hardy	Candidate 4/2021
15 marks	<i>Trainspotting</i> by Irvine Welsh and <i>A Clockwork Orange</i> by Anthony Burgess	Candidate 5/2016
18 marks	<i>The Tell-Tale Heart</i> and <i>The Black Cat</i> and <i>The Fall of the House of Usher</i> by Edgar Allan Poe	Candidate 3/2021
19 marks	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> by Emily Brontë and <i>Jane Eyre</i> by Charlotte Brontë	Candidate 4/2016
21 marks	<i>1984</i> and <i>The Road to Wigan Pier</i> and <i>Down and Out in Paris and London</i> by George Orwell	Candidate 10/2016
22 marks	<i>1984</i> by George Orwell and <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> by Margaret Atwood	Candidate 2/2021
22 marks	<i>The Colour Purple</i> by Alice Walker	Candidate 1/2019
26 marks	<i>The Edible Woman</i> by Margaret Atwood	Candidate 3/2019
26 marks	<i>Brideshead Revisited</i> by Evelyn Waugh	Candidate 1/2021
27 marks	<i>Small Gods</i> by Terry Pratchett and <i>American Gods</i> by Neil Gaiman	Candidate 9/2016
28 marks	<i>The Colour Purple</i> by Alice Walker and <i>Beloved</i> by Toni Morrison	Candidate 7/2016
29 marks	<i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	Candidate 2/2019
30 marks	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> and <i>Emma</i> by Jane Austen	Candidate 3/2016
30 marks	<i>North and South</i> by Elizabeth Gaskell and <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen	Candidate 2/2024

### Drama

Mark	Text and authors	Understanding Standards identifier
20 marks	<i>Hecuba</i> and <i>Medea</i> by Euripides and <i>Electra</i> by Sophocles	Candidate 1/2016

**Poetry**

<b>Mark</b>	<b>Texts and authors</b>	<b>Understanding Standards identifier</b>
15 marks	Sylvia Plath	Candidate 6/2016
26 marks	<i>Four Quartets</i> by T S Eliot	Candidate 2/2016

**Prose non-fiction**

<b>Mark</b>	<b>Texts and authors</b>	<b>Understanding Standards identifier</b>
30 marks	<i>Bad Blood</i> by Lorna Sage and <i>Cider with Rosie</i> by Laurie Lee	Candidate 1/2023