



National Qualifications Framework Levels 1 – 3, 2009

Media Studies

National Moderator's Report

National Moderator's Report for Media Studies

General Guidance for Assessors of Achievement and Unit Standards

The purpose of external moderation is to provide assurance that assessor judgments are at the national standard and are made on the basis of assessment materials that are fair and valid.

All assessment materials are expected to:

- give the learner the opportunity to meet the requirements of the standard
- have an assessment schedule that gives evidence of appropriate learner responses and clear judgments at all levels.

General Overall Comment

The comments in the National Moderator's Report for 2008 are endorsed and continue to apply to current practice. Teachers are advised to consult this document, available here <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/mediastudies>, which addresses a wide range of general and specific assessment and moderation issues in detail.

Teachers are increasing in their understanding and confidence in interpreting the standards and applying fair, valid and consistent assessment practices, including gathering appropriate supporting evidence.

Use of standard clarifications, newsletters, updated TKI activities and other resources posted here <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/mediastudies> and attendance at the national conference and Best Practice Workshops are resulting in greater consistency.

When awarding individual achievement grades in group assessments there needs to be appropriate supporting evidence. Teachers should note the recommendations published in Newsletters and Clarifications here <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/mediastudies>.

In print media work there is a minimum quality accepted for achievement in the production of media products (*AS90765 Design and produce a media product and evaluate the process used to create the product - version 1*; *AS90606 Create a media product using appropriate media technology - version 2*). For example, print products must reflect written language skills appropriate to the relevant curriculum level (*AS90765- Curriculum level 7*; *AS90606 – curriculum level 8*), and layout should be of a publishable quality, e.g. controlled columns/boxes, graphics and illustrations of appropriate resolution for print reproduction etc.

Assessment of *AS90280 Demonstrate understanding of narrative conventions in media texts (version 2)*. This standard focuses on how narrative conventions (e.g. character development/revelation; internal/external conflict; structures such as inverted pyramid news stories, classic Hollywood three-act or expository documentary moving image structures) are used to present or develop the narrative (story) of the media text, i.e. how they affect the narrative.

There is a distinction between narrative conventions and elements of film language (e.g. camera shots, costume, etc) that are used to present the narrative conventions, e.g. CUs or

cross-cutting used to show the audience the internal or external conflict a character is experiencing.

The requirements of the unit standards, particularly the required quantity and quality of work, has been clarified and information is included in the [Resources for Media Studies](#).

Teachers should expect students to provide the same quality of work for achievement of unit standards as for achievement of achievement standards at the same NCEA level. Work should reflect the expectations of the appropriate national curriculum level (e.g. NCEA Level 2 reflects curriculum level 7).

Please note that some unit standards require analysis for achievement.

Clarification of Standards

[Clarifications](#) of the intent and minimum requirements of all Media Studies and the most commonly used Preliminary Journalism Skills unit and achievement standards were published in 2009.

Communications

[Newsletters](#) are published four times per year and offer updates and latest developments. Teachers are advised of latest newsletters and other assessment and moderation updates via the [TKI Media Studies](#) forum, *Assessing Media Studies* and the TKI Media Mailing List.

Optional Teacher Selected Feedback

The submission of additional student samples of assessed work for Teacher Selected Feedback is a valuable opportunity for teachers to receive additional feedback about specific materials requiring grade boundary decisions. These samples may not always be selected in the random sampling process for moderation.

Specific standards

Further information about specific standards can be found in the clarifications documents and newsletters available in the [Resources for Media Studies](#) subject specific page of the NZQA web page www.nzqa.govt.nz