

## HSC Portuguese and Russian Continuers course

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Stage 6 Assessment Policy](#) document, which can be found on the NSW School of Languages website.

### School-based assessment and the final HSC result

To obtain the final HSC mark NESA adds together and averages

- the **percentage mark obtained in the HSC examination**  
and
- the **moderated assessment mark** (also a percentage mark).

To arrive at the moderated assessment mark there are two steps:

- the student completes a number of assessment tasks set by the school, the results of which are combined to form the **final school assessment mark**.
- the school provides NESA with all of its students' final assessment marks, and NESA applies statistical procedures to the marks to ensure that marks from all schools are comparable. This procedure produces the moderated assessment mark for each student.

This means that half of the available marks for the final HSC result are reserved for the **moderated assessment mark**.

Please note that the moderating procedure may alter a student's actual mark, but it does not alter the student's position in the group studying that course at the same school. This means that, if a student's original final school assessment mark places that student at 5th place in the school course group, then the moderated assessment mark for that student will be at 5th place even though the actual mark may change.

As mentioned above, the final school assessment mark is the combination of marks from a number of assessment tasks held throughout the HSC year.

NESA requires that the final school assessment mark be compiled in such a way that the marks available for each of a number of defined **components** of the course make up a fixed percentage or **weighting** of the final mark. These components are called the **assessment components** for the course.

## Organisation of assessment tasks

The [timetable](#) of the NSW School of Languages Year 12 Assessments with specific dates is available on the NSW School of Languages website.

[Assessment Task information notices](#) will be posted on the NSW School of Languages website two weeks prior to the assessment tasks. They will also be available through Moodle.

Students should be aware that it is a condition of enrolment that they sit for assessment tasks under the conditions specified by NSW School of Languages. Failure to attempt these assessment tasks may render the student ineligible to sit for this subject at the Higher School Certificate Examination.

### NSW School of Languages HSC Portuguese and Russian Courses Assessment 2023-2024

Component	Task 1		Task 2		Task 3		Task 4 (Trial)		Total Weighting %
	Marks	Weighting %	Marks	Weighting %	Marks	Weighting %	Marks	Weighting %	
	Term 4 Week 7 22 November 2023		Term 1 Week 7 11 - 15 March 2024		Term 3 Week 1 22 - 26 July 2024		Term 3 Week 1 22 - 26 July 2024		
	Outcomes assessed Refer to Assessment Notice		Outcomes assessed Refer to Assessment Notice		Outcomes assessed 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 4.1		Outcomes assessed 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 4.1		
	Marks	Weighting %	Marks	Weighting %	Marks	Weighting %	Marks	Weighting %	
Listening			20	20			30	10	30
Reading	20	20					25	10	30
Speaking			20	10	25	10			20
Writing	10	10					20	10	20
<b>Total %</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

## Objectives and outcomes assessed

The **timetable** of the NSW School of Languages Year 12 Assessment Sessions is available each year on the NSW School of Languages website from Term 3 onwards.

Objectives	Outcomes
<b>The student will:</b>	<b>The student:</b>
1. exchange information, opinions and experiences in Portuguese/Russian	1.1 uses a range of strategies to maintain communication 1.2 conveys information appropriate to context, purpose and audience 1.3 exchanges and justifies opinions and ideas on known topics 1.4 reflects on aspects of past, present and future experience
2. express ideas through the production of original texts in Portuguese/Russian	2.1 applies knowledge of language structures to create original text * 2.2 describes, narrates and reflects on real or imaginary experiences in the past, present or future 2.3 organises and sequences ideas and information
3. analyse, process and respond to a range of texts that are in Portuguese/Russian	3.1 identifies and conveys the gist, main points, supporting points and detailed items of specific information 3.2 infers points of view, attitudes or emotions from language and context 3.3 summarises, interprets and evaluates information 3.4 compares and contrasts aspects of texts
4. understand aspects of the language and culture of Portuguese/Russian-speaking communities	4.1 recognises and employs language appropriate to different social contexts 4.2 identifies values, attitudes and beliefs of cultural significance 4.3 reflects upon significant aspects of language and culture

\* 'original text' refers to a written or spoken text created by the student incorporating his or her own ideas

## Criteria used to judge performance in tasks

### Listening and responding

There are two parts to this section, **Part A** and **Part B**. In **Part A** students will be assessed on how well they:

- understand general and/or specific aspects of texts by identifying and analysing information
- convey the information in English.

In **Part B** students will be assessed on how well they:

- understand general and/or specific aspects of texts by identifying and analysing information
- convey the information in Portuguese/Russian.

### Speaking

There are two parts to this section, **Conversation** and **Discussion**.

In **Conversation** students will be assessed on how well they:

- engage in a conversation (comprehension, communication strategies)
- respond to a range of questions
- manipulate language in a range of contexts
- demonstrate knowledge of vocabulary and sentence structures
- speak with correct pronunciation and intonation.

In **Discussion** students will be assessed on how:

- well they demonstrate an understanding of their chosen topic
- perceptive and detailed their references are to the texts they have studied
- effectively and consistently they discuss and substantiate a point of view
- accurate and sophisticated their use of vocabulary and sentence structure is.

### Reading and responding

In **Part A** students will be assessed on how well they:

- understand general and/or specific aspects of texts, by, for example, comparing, contrasting, summarising or evaluating, and convey the information accurately and appropriately

In **Part B** students will be judged on how well they:

- understand general and specific aspects of texts by identifying, analysing and responding to information
- convey information coherently ( structure, sequence, accuracy and variety of vocabulary and sentence structure) and appropriately (relevance, use of conventions of text type).

## Writing

In their answers students will be assessed on the extent to which they demonstrate:

- relevance and depth of treatment of ideas, information and opinions
- accuracy and range of vocabulary and sentence structures
- the capacity to structure and sequence response and capacity to use conventions of the text type.

## External assessment (HSC examination)

The examination will consist of a written paper worth 75 marks and an oral examination worth 25 marks.

### Written Paper

**(75 marks)**

Time allowed: 2 hours and 30 minutes plus 10 minutes reading time.

The stimulus texts and the writing tasks will relate to the topics as listed in the syllabus.

Monolingual and/or bilingual print dictionaries may be used.

The paper will consist of three sections.

### Section 1 – Listening and Responding

**(30 marks)**

#### *Specifications*

Section 1 of the written examination has two parts, Part A and Part B. The texts in both parts will be related to one or more of the prescribed themes.

The student will hear six texts in Portuguese/Russian covering a number of text types. The total listening time, for one reading of the texts without pauses, will be approximately eight minutes (16 minutes in total for two readings of each text).

Some texts will be short; that is, one reading of each text will be approximately 35 to 45 seconds. Some texts will be longer; that is, one reading of each text will be approximately 90 to 120 seconds. Each text will be heard twice. There will be a pause between the first and second readings in which the student may take notes. The student will be given sufficient time after the second reading to complete responses.

The student will be expected to respond to a range of question types, such as completing a table, chart, list or form, or responding to a message, open-ended questions or multiple-choice items.

#### **Part A (15 marks)**

There will be three texts, including at least one shorter text and at least one longer text.

Questions on the texts will be written in English for answers in English.

#### **Part B (15 marks)**

There will be three texts, including at least one shorter text and at least one longer text.

Questions on the texts will be phrased in English and Portuguese/Russian for responses in Portuguese/Russian.

## **Section 2 – Reading and Responding**

**(25 marks)**

### *Specifications*

Section 2 of the written examination has two parts, Part A and Part B. The texts in both parts will be related to one or more of the prescribed themes.

#### **Part A (10 marks)**

The student will be required to read two texts in Portuguese/Russian of 400 to 500 words in total. The texts will be different in style and purpose but may be related in subject matter or context.

Questions on the texts will be written in English for answers in English.

#### **Part B (15 marks)**

The student will be required to read approximately 150 words in Portuguese/Russian. The student will be required to demonstrate understanding of the text through processing the information from the stimulus material. The student will produce a written response that addresses the purpose, a context, and an audience as specified in the question. The student will be required to produce a text type drawn from those prescribed for productive use in the syllabus.

The student will be expected to write a response of approximately 150 words in Portuguese/Russian.

One or two related texts may be used in the stimulus text. However, if two texts are used (for example, an attachment within an email) they must be presented as one text with two parts in the examination.

The task will be written in English and Portuguese for a response in Portuguese/Russian.

## **Section 3 – Writing in Portuguese/Russian (20 marks)**

### *Specifications*

The student will be required to write a text involving the presentation of ideas and/or information and/or opinions. There will be a choice of two to four questions, which will be related to one or more of the prescribed themes. Questions will accommodate a range of student interests and will be set to ensure that the student is given opportunities to produce different kinds of writing (eg personal, informative, imaginative, evaluative, reflective, narrative, persuasive or descriptive, either individually or in combination) by, for example:

- having different purposes, audiences and contexts
- requiring different text types.

The student will be expected to write a response of approximately 250 words in Portuguese/Russian. The questions will be written in English and Portuguese for a response in Portuguese/Russian.

## Oral Examination

(25 marks)

Time allowed: Approximately 15 minutes

### Specifications

The oral examination has two sections.

#### Section 1 – Conversation (approximately 7 minutes)

(10 marks)

In this section of the oral examination, the candidate will respond to the examiner's questions on the prescribed syllabus topics as they relate to the candidate's personal world.

#### Section 2 – Discussion (approximately 8 minutes)

(15 marks)

In this section of the oral examination, the candidate will respond to the examiner's questions about the candidate's in-depth study. The subject of the study will relate to one or more of the prescribed themes or topics and involve the in-depth study of at least three texts, one of which will be a literary text, such as a novel, play, film or poem.

## School-based assessment vs. HSC examination

The tables below indicate the internal and external assessment components.

External examination	Mark	School-based assessment	Weighting
<b>Written examination</b>		Listening Objective 3	30
<i>Section 1 – Listening and Responding</i>		Reading Objectives 1, 2 and 3	30
Part A	15	Writing Objective 2	20
Short-answer and objective response questions		Speaking Objectives 1 and 4	20
Part B	15		<b>100</b>
Short-answer and objective response questions			
<i>Section 2 – Reading and Responding</i>			
Part A	10		
Short-answer and objective response questions			
Part B	15		
One extended response question			
<i>Section 3 – Writing in Portuguese/Russian</i>			
Candidates answer one question from two to four options	20		
<b>Oral examination</b>			
Conversation	10		
Discussion	15		
	<b>100</b>		

## Venue for the HSC examination

- **No HSC examinations will be conducted at NSW School of Languages.**
- NESAs will notify students individually via *Students Online* where and when to attend.
- The HSC Oral examination will be conducted at a special Examination Centre. Students must be proactive in collaborating with their home school to schedule their oral examination and, in some cases, choose the venue. This scheduling usually takes place in June.
- The HSC written examination will be conducted in the same Examination Centre students attend for all their other HSC examination subjects.
- Students must use their NESAs ID and PIN to access all HSC examination details.

## Making further enquiries

Any enquiries students may have regarding their HSC studies at NSW School of Languages should be directed to their teacher on the phone number posted on the NSW School of Languages website.