

Preliminary Beginners Courses

Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Modern Greek, Spanish

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1.1 How will NSW School of Languages report on student achievement?

Assessment at NSW School of Languages is an integral part of the learning process.

Student progress in learning will be assessed according to the course components prescribed in the syllabus and outlined in the table on page 3 of this document.

Reporting Period 1 - refer to page 2 of the [NSL Assessment and Progress Report Dates](#) document that can be found on the school website.

A **grade** which best reflects the achievement of the student up to that time will be awarded. This grade will be calculated from the assessment task administered during this period and ongoing assessment of the student's Course Work and will be awarded according to the Achievement Scale below:

A	Outstanding	The student demonstrates extensive knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts and applies highly developed skills and processes in a wide variety of contexts. In addition, the student demonstrates creative and critical thinking skills using perceptive analysis and evaluation. The student effectively communicates complex ideas and information.
B	High	The student demonstrates thorough knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts and applies well-developed skills and processes in a variety of contexts. In addition, the student demonstrates creative and critical thinking skills using analysis and evaluation. The student clearly communicates complex ideas and information.
C	Sound	The student demonstrates sound knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts and applies skills and processes in a range of familiar contexts. In addition, the student demonstrates skills in selecting and integrating information and communicates relevant ideas in an appropriate manner.
D	Basic	The student demonstrates a basic knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts and applies skills and processes in some familiar contexts. In addition, the student demonstrates skills in selecting and using information and communicates ideas in a descriptive manner.
E	Limited	The student demonstrates an elementary knowledge of content and understanding of course concepts and applies some skills and processes with guidance. In addition, the student demonstrates elementary skills in recounting information and communicating ideas.

Reporting Period 2 - refer to page 2 of the [NSL Assessment and Progress Report Dates](#) document that can be found on the school website.

Students will be awarded a mark based on the assessment task administered during this period, the course work and the Preliminary Course Examination. Students will also be awarded a grade based on the NESA's *Common Grade Scale for the Preliminary Course* for the whole year's achievement.

This grade will be provided to the NESA for the students' RoSA (*Record of School Achievement*). It will not appear on their report.

1.2 What are the assessment components of the Preliminary Course?

The assessment components and weightings for the course are listed in the table below:

Year 11 Beginners Assessment 2024 Chinese – French – German – Indonesian – Italian – Japanese – Korean – Modern Greek – Spanish

Component	Task 1 13 – 17 May 2024		Task 2 24 – 28 June 2024		Task 3 9 – 13 September 2024		Weighting %
	Outcomes assessed Please see Assessment Notice		Outcomes assessed Please see Assessment Notice		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		
	Mark	Weighting %	Mark	Weighting %	Mark	Weighting %	
Listening	20	20			20	10	30
Speaking	10	10			10	10	20
Reading			20	20	20	10	30
Writing			10	10	10	10	20
Total %		30		30		40	100

The Year 11 formal school-based assessment program is to reflect the following requirements:

- ♣ three assessment tasks
- ♣ the minimum weighting for an individual task is 20%
- ♣ the maximum weighting for an individual task is 40%
- ♣ only one task may be a formal written examination

1.3 What objectives and outcomes will be assessed?

The table below sets out all the Objectives and Outcomes which the NESAs requires to be assessed in the school's assessment tasks:

Objectives	Outcomes
1. Interacting	1.1 establishes and maintains communication in [Language] 1.2 manipulates linguistic structures to express ideas effectively in [Language] 1.3 sequences ideas and information 1.4 applies knowledge of the culture of [Language]-speaking communities to interact appropriately
2. Understanding texts	2.1 understands and interprets information in texts using a range of strategies 2.2 conveys the gist of and identifies specific information in texts 2.3 summarises the main points of a text 2.4 draws conclusions from or justifies an opinion about a text 2.5 identifies the purpose, context and audience of a text 2.6 identifies and explains aspects of the culture of [Language]-speaking communities in texts
3. Producing Texts	3.1 produces texts appropriate to audience, purpose and context 3.2 structures and sequences ideas and information 3.3 applies knowledge of diverse linguistic structures to convey information and express original ideas in [Language] 3.4 applies knowledge of the culture of [Language]-speaking communities to the production of texts

1.4 What criteria will be used to judge performance in tasks?

The following criteria may be used:

Speaking

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- engage in a conversation
- select and incorporate particular vocabulary and structures to achieve specific communication goals
- structure information and ideas coherently
- demonstrate clarity of expression (intonation, stress).

Listening

In your answers you will be assessed on:

- how well you identify, summarise and interpret general and/or specific aspects of texts
- how accurately you convey the relevant information in English
- how well you identify and explain aspects of the culture of the [Language]-speaking communities.

Reading

In your answers you will be assessed on:

- how well you identify, summarise and interpret general and or specific aspects of texts
- how accurately you convey the relevant information in English
- how well you convey an intercultural understanding of [Language]-speaking communities.

Writing in [Language]

In your answers you will be assessed on how well you:

- communicate relevant ideas and information
- write text appropriate to audience, purpose and context
- structure and sequence ideas and information
- demonstrate control of vocabulary and language structures in [Language].

1.5 What information will be given before assessment tasks?

Students will be notified of each assessment task on Canvas and by email two weeks before the assessment.

Two weeks before the Preliminary Course Examination the **[Language] Beginners Preliminary Examination Assessment Notice** will be posted on the NSW School of Languages website. It will also be uploaded to Canvas. Supervisors will be informed of this by email; students by email and SMS.

These notices will contain specific information on:

- the time and venue of the assessment
- the format of the tasks
- task descriptions
- the criteria to be used in assessing the tasks.

1.6 What feedback will be given on student performance in assessment tasks?

When tasks have been marked students will be supplied with:

- detailed Marking Guidelines including sample answers where appropriate
- the criteria used in judging students' performance
- detailed comments on the individual student's performance.

A Report will be issued after the Preliminary Course Examination indicating assessment marks awarded for each component of the course, as well as a total mark and an overall rank in the course.

1.7 How to make further enquiries

If you have any questions about your Preliminary Course studies at NSW School of Languages, please contact your teacher via email or phone.