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GCSE

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Non-examination Assessment: Spoken Language  
Report on the Examination

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8700  
November 2017

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Version: 1.0

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## **General Comments**

This report should be read alongside the report from June 2017.

## **Recording the sample**

The vast majority of centres did this without any real problems. The following points are a reminder for those whose submission this time was not as clear as it should be.

- Unless special circumstances are reported to AQA before the examination, then student performances must be visible and audible.
- When checking sound quality you should play the performances on a computer which was not the one used in the recording. This will allow you to check whether others will be able to hear it.
- Please label files in a way which includes student names and the level awarded. These two pieces of information, placed together, are vital for the verifier.

## **Tasks**

As with all work that is teacher assessed, suitable tasks/topics lead to best practice and performance. Verifiers saw many excellent examples of students selecting their own topics from a whole range of areas including politics, social behaviours, culture, philosophy, the environment, health etc. At all levels of ability these topics, supported by helpful questioning (including by the teacher) led to engaging work.

## **Assessment**

Most centres were accurate enough in their assessment for their levels to be verified.

However, it was noted that some centres with quite sizeable entries gave all students the same level, usually a Pass. This was a shame as application of the criteria would have suggested a more varied set of performances.

In a few centres many of the students were awarded NC. This should not happen. It is likely that many of these students could have been a carry forward, had the centres investigated their summer results.

Centres are reminded that questions are a required part of the overall presentation. They should arise out of what has been said in the first part of the presentation, rather than being pre-scripted.

## **Further Support**

Centres are reminded that the standardising examples are an inter-board resource. There are no plans at this stage to issue any more examples.

Centres are reminded that they can access all necessary information about this endorsement from the [Spoken Language Endorsement page](#) of the AQA website.

## **Conclusion**

It would be helpful if all teachers of the 8700 specification could be given access to this report its predecessor and the standardising materials.

## **Use of statistics**

Statistics used in this report may be taken from incomplete processing data. However, this data still gives a true account on how students have performed for each question.

## **Mark Ranges and Award of Grades**

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.