

## WJEC MFL January Newsletter

### Wales GCSE

#### GCSE speaking guidance for teacher examiners

The guidance document for teacher examiners conducting the GCSE speaking assessments is available on the website in 'Related Documents' under 'Teacher Guidance Notes':

[http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/modern-foreign-languages/GCSE%20Wales%20MFL%20Unit%201%20Teacher%20Guidance.docx?language\\_id=1](http://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/modern-foreign-languages/GCSE%20Wales%20MFL%20Unit%201%20Teacher%20Guidance.docx?language_id=1)

#### CPD materials

Our CPD materials are now available on the secure website under 'Resources' in 'Subject-specific support material including CPD':

<https://www.wjecservices.co.uk/sectionlist.asp?styp=4>

#### MP3 files

Here is a reminder how to access the MP3 files for the Wales MFL GCE / GCSE on the secure website:

Log on to the WJEC Secure Website. At the top of the screen click on the resources drop-down menu and select 'Subject-Specific Support Materials including CPD'. This will bring up an options box, please choose the following:

- Subject                      French / German / Spanish
- Level                         GCSE / GCE
- Type of document        All
- Year                         All
- Language                 English / Welsh

Click on search and the MP3 files are the second box down.

<https://www.wjecservices.co.uk/resourcessearch.asp>

#### Clarification Regarding Mixed Tier Entry

Centres can enter candidates for any combination of GCSE foundation and higher tier units and permission does not need to be requested prior to entry.

## Wales AS/A level

### IRP guidance for A level:

In order to further support teachers and their candidates when preparing for the IRP, WJEC is pleased to provide teacher guidance with **Preparing Learners for unit 3 A level**. This document is available for download from the WJEC website.

Please note that in accordance with this guidance, the IRP authentication pro forma has also been updated. Teachers should use the **updated pro forma** for submission to the visiting examiner. The updated pro forma is available on the WJEC website.

Centres have been asking whether it is possible to conduct a 'mock IRP' to help prepare candidates and provide feedback for Unit 3.

While it is not permitted to provide feedback and support to candidates on the **live** IRP, a mock can be conducted following the attached guidance, without compromising the IRP the candidate is preparing to deliver for Unit 3 (i.e. the **live** IRP).

### Important Reminder

When planning and preparing the Independent Research Project, candidates must ensure that the subject matter allows them to fully access the Presentation and Discussion mark schemes for the Unit 3 task (the IRP).

### AO4 requires candidates to do the following in:

**Part A - Presentation (8 marks):** to show knowledge and understanding of, and respond critically and analytically to, different aspects of the culture and society of countries / communities where the language is spoken.

**Part B - Discussion (16 marks):** to show knowledge and understanding of, and respond critically and analytically to, different aspects of the culture and society of countries / communities where the language is spoken.

**For example,** candidates who choose a film or literary work must ensure that the work relates directly to the culture and society of the country/community where the language is spoken and that they choose a topic that they can respond to in a critical and analytical way. Analysis of character(s) within the work, for example, is unlikely to meet the requirements.

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### AS level Online Exam Review (OER)

The OER for AS level can be now found on our website: <http://oer.wjec.co.uk/>

### Grade boundaries

Please note that neither WJEC nor any other examining body are able to publish grade boundaries before the first examination has been taken by candidates. This is because the grade boundaries come from the outcome of the examination of the first cohort in conjunction with the consideration of analytical data, the principal examiners' professional judgement and evidence provided by the regulator. Until then there is nothing to set grade boundaries against.