

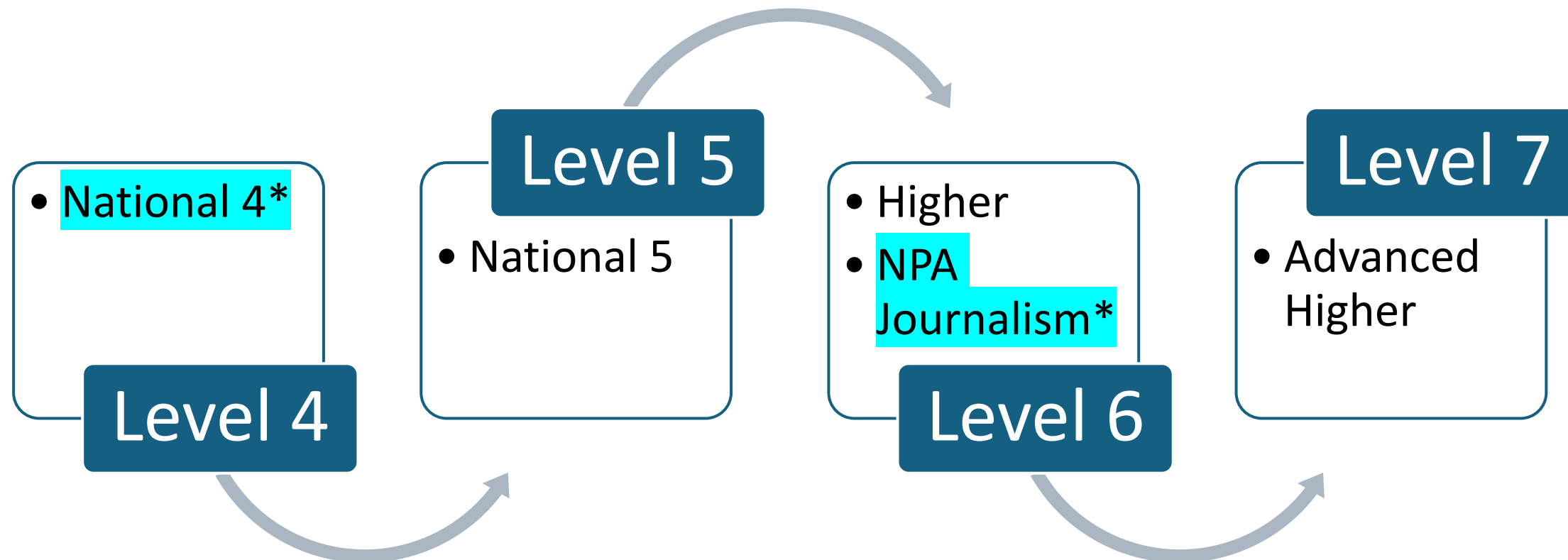


# English

Maximising Attainment 



# English Pathways



\*These courses are coursework & internal assessment. No exam.

# National 5 English



## RUAE

30%

- Read **one** unseen passage of journalism.
- 9 questions assessing skills of understanding, analysis and evaluation.

## Critical Reading

40%

- Scottish Set Text: Critical Questions
  - EXAM: Extract from the text given, with questions on the given extract and a final question which draws on knowledge from the rest of the text.
- Critical Essay
  - EXAM: Respond to **one of two** unseen essay questions, and construct an essay response to a studied text.

## Folio

30%

- ONE written piece of **1000** words.
  - Can be:
    - Discursive: report or persuasive.
    - Creative: Reflective or imaginative.

# Higher English



30%

## RUAЕ

- Reading of non-fiction.
- EXAM: Read **Two** unseen passages of journalism.
- 9 questions assessing skills of understanding, analysis and evaluation.

40%

## Critical Reading

- **Section 1 - Scottish Set Text: Critical Questions**
  - EXAM: Extract from the text given, with questions on the given extract and a final question which draws on knowledge from the rest of the text.
- **Section 2 - Critical Essay**
  - EXAM: Respond to **one of three** unseen essay questions, and construct an essay response to a studied text.

30%

## Folio

- ONE written piece of **1300** words.
- Can be:
  - Discursive: report, persuasive or discursive.OR
  - Creative: Reflective or imaginative.

# *Comparing* National 5 and Higher



|                         | National 5                                                                         | Higher                                                                               | Demand...                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>RUAE</b>             | 1 passage, 1 hour                                                                  | 2 passages, 1hr 30mins                                                               | More reading of more complex passages, and the ability to understand and analyse these.                      |
| <b>Critical Reading</b> | 2 sections, 1hr 30mins<br><br>Choice of 2 very broad questions for critical essay. | 2 sections, 1hr 45mins<br><br>Choice of three specific questions for critical essay. | A greater weighting on the ability to analyse language and literary features & ability to craft an argument. |
| <b>Folio</b>            | 1000 word limit, due early March                                                   | 1300 word limit, due late March                                                      | A greater ability to craft a well-informed coherent argument stylishly.                                      |



# Coursework: Written Folio



## How does it work?

- A **proposal** and **plan** is written and submitted for feedback.
- A first draft is written to the **conditions** – one week
  - National 5 Persuasive Writing – September
  - Higher Persuasive Writing – October
  - *National 5 and Higher Writing* – Jan/Feb
- **Feedback** provided to facilitate effective redrafting.
  - Note: Only the student's own writing (persuasive writing) is redrafted.
- Submitted to QS.



## How can you support?

- Check your young person knows their timelines/deadlines. Encourage them to speak with us, come to study support.
- Talk to your young person about their topic, challenge their ideas (have they got evidence for that?).



# The most challenging part of the course...?

## RUAE

- This is thought to be the most challenging aspect of both National Curriculum and students being prepared to write on text/s in the examination.
  - *The text often presents a topic which is not one which you are engaged with*
  - *There will likely be a topic which presents as a challenge*
- This is a national problem and it more distinctly a

## How can you support?

- Encourage and Discuss:
  - Engaging with the world's news.
  - Reading high-quality journalism, *even one article a week on a topic they're interested in would be a great.*
- Practice, Practice, Practice.



# Study and Revision Success

- In lessons, we model different ways in which students can revise so they can find the tools that work for them.
- We encourage students to be active in their revision (recall, build new connections, reshape it). MAKE IT STICK.
- Then, practise with Past Papers and seeking feedback on this is one of the best ways to ready themselves for the exam.



# Study Support



Lunchtimes  
Monday  
and  
Wednesday

Afterschool  
Thursday,  
3.30-  
4.30pm

Post Prelim  
Targeted  
support i.e.  
RUAE boost

# Useful Websites



## For all:

### Qualifications Scotland:

- Past Papers: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm>
- Understanding Standards: <https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/>

## For Critical Reading:

- BBC Bitesize – has good revision for Scottish set texts especially: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmcrd2p>
- SparkNotes – great for most Critical Essay texts: <https://www.sparknotes.com/>