



Using SCHOLAR to support Intermediate 2/National 5 Languages

The SCHOLAR material for Higher Languages is built on a developmental basis: in French, the first topic is at about Intermediate 2 level, the sixth and final topic is at the level of Higher, which was intended to help offer material at an appropriate level throughout the time pupils were studying towards a Higher. In Spanish and German, the development is less obvious, but there is much material which can be used with a National 5 class.

Attached is a list of the topics and contexts for National 5, linked to specific SCHOLAR activities in French, German and Spanish. For each activity mentioned, there is a guide to where you will find that activity on the SCHOLAR site. Many of the activities listed are assessment activities which means learners can see, in the classroom, how well they have got on, and try again to see what improvements they have made on the second attempt.

Some of the activities particularly from the first three Higher topics are at or around the level of National 5, and several of the Higher topic areas are a close match to the contexts and topics for National 5. Activities can be delivered to a whole class via a whiteboard/data projector and also for individual use by learners. Alternatively, teachers can download the material, as a pdf, from the SCHOLAR website by clicking on the link to the study guides and can print the pages they wish to use.

The success criteria for Using Language in Modern Languages asks pupils to be able to use a variety of tenses, as well as conjunctions with sub-clauses to get good marks. For talking, they should be able to express their opinions. There is a variety of exercises within SCHOLAR which can help learners with developing these skills, linked to the activities in the accompanying grid. These are useful activities to go through and set as class activities. By searching the Higher site through the 'Activities' link within additional tools, appropriate activities can easily be found.

Ideally learners should be presented with SCHOLAR as a whole class activity, to enable them to see how SCHOLAR functions. They can then be directed to specific tasks, which can be worked on individually or in groups. This should build in pupils understanding of, and confidence in, SCHOLAR, and allow them better to be independent users of SCHOLAR when studying for Higher or Advanced Higher. Using some pages and activities within a National 5 class will not rob learners of the chance to use these in Higher classes, as there are many more activities available than learners will have time to use!