

Unit Title:	Write basic (English/French/German/Italian/Japanese/Russian/Spanish/ Mandarin Chinese) text in limited familiar work situations
Level:	Entry
Credit value:	2 (4 – Mandarin Chinese and Japanese, 3 – Russian)
Guided learning hours:	10 (20 – Mandarin Chinese and Japanese, 15 – Russian)

Unit purpose and aim

The aim of this unit is to enable the candidate to write basic (English/French/German/Irish/Italian/Japanese/Russian/Spanish/Mandarin Chinese) in the context of limited, familiar work situations.

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Knowledge, understanding and skills
<p>The Learner will:</p> <p>1 Be able to write short basic messages in (.....) on specific familiar topics</p>	<p>The Learner can:</p> <p>1.1 Start and end basic messages politely - a. formally b. informally</p> <p>1.2 Communicate: a. thanks b. apologies c. basic information d. basic questions e. basic answers f. basic requests</p> <p>1.3 Write accurately enough to be understood when using basic, familiar words and phrases</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K1. A small number of words/signs in everyday use • K2. The most important words/signs needed for your work • K3. Basic everyday connectors (e.g. 'and', 'but') • K4. A small number of set phrases/signs expressing politeness (e.g. please and thank you, introductions, forms of address, greeting leave-taking) • K7. Short expressions to convey a small number of verbs in the present: I'd like /I want; I/you like/prefer; I/you have; it's... (e.g. hot/broken) a few other common verbs • K8. Basic negatives (e.g. I don't like; I'm not going) • K10. A small number of questions (e.g. What is your name? When? How much? Are you...? Can I...? Can you...?)
Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Knowledge, understanding and skills

<p>2 Be able to use a simple range of vocabulary</p>	<p>2.1 Use simple vocabulary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. basic words in everyday use b. basic connectors c. basic set phrases expressing politeness d. basic expressions of time e. basic numbers 1 - 20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K1. A small number of words/signs in everyday use • K2. The most important words/signs needed for your work • K3. Basic everyday connectors (e.g. 'and', 'but') • K4. A small number of set phrases/signs expressing politeness (e.g. please and thank you, introductions, forms of address, greeting leave-taking) • K5. Days of the week, months, time, yesterday, today and tomorrow • K6. Basic numerical terms (e.g. can use 1-20)
<p>3 Be able to use a simple range of grammatical forms</p>	<p>3.1 Use simple grammatical forms</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. common verbs in the present b. basic negatives c. basic instructions d. specific basic questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K7. Short expressions to convey a small number of verbs in the present: I'd like /I want; I/you like/prefer; I/you have; it's... (e.g. hot/broken) a few other common verbs • K8. Basic negatives (e.g. I don't like; I'm not going) • K9. A few common instructions (e.g. Turn right! Stop!) • K10. A small number of questions (e.g. What is your name? When? How much? Are you...? Can I...? Can you...?)
<p>4 Be able to use reference sources</p>	<p>4.1 Use reference sources to find out or confirm meaning of words in basic text</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K12. How to use reference sources to find out or check meaning or accuracy (e.g. glossaries, dictionaries, phrase books, basic on-line resources).

Guidance on assessment and evidence requirements

Assessment of performance

Qualifications based on The UK Occupational Language Standards accredit candidates' ability to use their language skills for work. Assessment should therefore focus on the practical language skills and language knowledge they need to be able to carry out their work effectively. Assessment may take place through:

- direct observation of the candidate
- scrutiny of recorded or written material.

It may also be appropriate for **part** of the assessment to include witness testimony from others who either have the language skills to testify or who have seen the outcome of the candidate's language skills. Knowledge of grammar and vocabulary should mainly be assessed through practical use. However, a small amount of additional testing may be appropriate to ensure knowledge is secure.

Simulation

In the workplace

Candidates may be working in environments which require confidentiality, or where the language assessed is not being used on a regular basis. Assessors may be language trainers not based in the workplace. It may therefore not be possible to assess candidates' competence through normal working practice. In these situations, assessment in a simulated environment is acceptable.

In the classroom

Language can occur naturally even though the environment may be simulated (e.g. set up by a trainer in the classroom). Simulations must be aligned to the potential or actual workplace environment. This will include social situations.

Meeting individual needs

- It is important that where assessment is not taking place at work, simulations are relevant to the needs of the candidates, and their reason for learning the language.
- The four skills are assessed individually (though they may be linked), to allow candidates to achieve in different skills at different levels, or to take some skills and not others.
- Candidates with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are positively encouraged to make use of qualifications based on the UK Occupational Language Standards. Assessors will need to be flexible in their approach to assessment methods, to suit individual circumstances.
- Some candidates may be unable to follow/recognise all cultural conventions because of a disability. In these cases, a common sense approach is needed, and a discussion with the awarding body if in doubt.
- Building a portfolio allows candidates to take assessments when they are ready, and candidates will need different levels of support in order to reach the level.
- The key question for the assessor should always be:

Would the candidate be able to use the language successfully in the workplace at the level required?

Minimum evidence requirements

Learning outcomes and assessment criteria for the NVQ units are based on the 2010 UK Occupational Language Standards performance criteria and Knowledge criteria. The UK Occupational Language Standards provide useful additional guidance, and should be used in conjunction with the qualification units.

All assessment criteria must be fully met.

In practice, this means that all will have been fully covered at least once, and many much more, in order to cover an adequate range of use. Where assessment takes place through simulated assignments, it is good practice (and more efficient) for the skills to be linked together, as they might be in the workplace. A single situation might give rise to a number of linked tasks.

- **All** evidence for assessment criteria relating the performance criteria of the UKOLS must be gathered through the relevant skill for that unit (Understand, Speak/Sign, Read or Write).
- **At least one** example for each of the Assessment criteria relating to vocabulary and grammatical forms must be gathered through the relevant skill. However, as these derive from the Knowledge section of the UKOLS, which is common to all four skills, further examples may be gathered across other skills and, if appropriate, through questioning or testing.

Writing

- As a general guide, evidence is likely to include a minimum of three pieces at entry level, four pieces at level 1, five pieces at level 2, six at level 3 and eight at level 4.
- In order to cover the assessment criteria fully, more than this may be needed.
- Evidence does not need to be handwritten, and for work purposes, it is expected that most would be word processed. If work has been redrafted with teacher support or correction to produce perfect copy, candidates should include worked versions in portfolios.

You should refer to the 'Admin Guide: Vocational Qualifications (A850)' for Notes on Preventing Computer-Assisted Malpractice.