

Assessment Specifications

Level 3 English 2026

Published in October 2025

General information

Domain:	English Language
Standards:	91472, 91473, 91474
Assessment method:	Examination, end of year
Assessment medium:	Online digital examination

[English subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

All answers are to be written in English.

Information in planning spaces will not be marked.

Further information about digital external assessment can be found on the NZQA website.

[Digital external assessment](#)

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	91472
Title:	Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence
Version:	1
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to write an essay on at least one text. A range of questions covering all written text types will be provided, from which candidates will select ONE to answer.

Candidates are encouraged to write a concise response of no more than 800–900 words (5–6 pages). Assessment will be based on the quality of the response rather than its length.

Standard:	91473
Title:	Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence
Version:	1
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to write an essay on at least one text. A range of questions covering visual and oral text types will be provided, from which candidates will select ONE to answer.

Candidates are encouraged to write a concise response of no more than 800–900 words (5–6 pages). Assessment will be based on the quality of the response rather than its length.

Standard:	91474
Title:	Respond critically to significant aspects of unfamiliar written texts through close reading, supported by evidence
Version:	1
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to respond to questions on one prose and one poetry text. Questions One and Two will focus on each text individually and Question Three will focus on a comparison of both texts.

A physical copy of the texts will be provided to candidates completing the assessment online.
