

## Assessment Specifications

# Scholarship Samoan 2026

Published in October 2025

## General information

<b>Performance Standard:</b>	93010
<b>Assessment method:</b>	Examination, end of year
<b>Assessment medium:</b>	Printed paper

[Gagana Sāmoa subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

## Format of the assessment

The exam consists of TWO parts, held in a three-hour time slot:

- first, a two-hour Writing section with two questions in response to spoken and written stimulus material in Samoan
- second, a short individual Speaking section, scheduled within a one-hour time slot, with one question in Samoan.

## Section One: Writing (two hours)

### Question One

This question will require a response, written in Samoan, to a passage(s) spoken in Samoan, and provided as an audio file.

The Listening passage(s) will:

- require about 30 minutes of listening time
- be repeated three times: the first time as a whole, the second and third times in sections, with a pause after each section
- consist of no more than three passages
- be linked around a common theme.

## Question Two

This question will require a response, written in English or te reo Māori, to stimulus material written in Samoan, provided in the question-and-answer booklet.

The written stimulus material will:

- consist of no more than three texts
- be linked around a common theme.

## Section Two: Speaking (individual sessions within a one-hour time slot)

### Question Three

Candidates will be required to give a spoken response to a question related to the listening passage(s) and / or the written text(s). Both the question and the response will be in Samoan.

In the recording room, candidates will be given:

- a straightforward question
- paper and pen
- 10 minutes to make notes for an oral response to the question.

At the end of 10 minutes, candidates will speak for 3–4 minutes (up to a maximum of 5 minutes), in Samoan, in response to the question. Candidates may use their notes as they speak.

[Scholarship Languages – Information for candidates \[PDF, 28 KB\]](#)

## Vocabulary list

Vocabulary used in the listening and reading texts will not be limited to the NCEA Levels 1 to 3 vocabulary lists. Candidates at Scholarship level are expected to use comprehension strategies to make sense of common usage words not on the vocabulary lists. Unusual or topic-specific vocabulary will still be glossed.

## Resources or information supplied

The following will be supplied:

- a question-and-answer booklet for each candidate
- an audio file of the Listening passage(s)
- a 'Speaking Task' card.

The school will provide a device and software on which to play the Listening passage(s) and to record the candidate's spoken response.

## Submission requirements

Submission instructions for NZ Scholarship Languages (Samoan) will be available to schools in Term 3.

## Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)