Trinity Skills for Life (QCF)
National pass rates 2015 – 2016

Pass rates September 2015 to July 2016

Level	Speaking and listening	Reading	Writing
Entry 1	85%	90%	83%
Entry 2	84%	80%	89%
Entry 3	86%	75%	74%
Level 1	87%	81%	76%
Level 2	84%	85%	74%

To pass a unit of Skills for Life, candidates are required to achieve at least 66% of the available marks and to meet each assessment criterion for the appropriate level. The two rules, together with a new format of the exam, may have contributed to the slight drop in pass rates for Speaking and Listening.

Understanding your results

Speaking and Listening

On the following page is a table from the Examination report, which an examiner uses to record the outcome of the assessment of Entry 1 Speaking & Listening. (The rules outlined below apply to the Reading and Writing components, too. Further guidance on Reading and Writing components, together with examples of Result Slips, are given later.)

In each task, a mark is awarded out of 4 for each of the assessment criteria listed. The total maximum possible number of marks for the whole Entry 1 Speaking & Listening unit is 76, and the overall pass mark is 50.

However, under QCF regulations, candidates must also demonstrate their ability to meet each of the assessment criteria at the assessed level by achieving a minimum of 2 marks for each assessment criterion at least once during their exam. Candidates who achieve a 2 in every criterion still need to achieve two thirds overall (eg 50 out of 76) to pass.

Candidates who achieve two thirds of available overall marks but do not achieve a minimum of 2 for each criterion at least once, cannot be awarded an overall pass for the unit. For this reason, each assessment criterion (except 1.3 in the case of Entry 1 Speaking & Listening, see below) is assessed during two different tasks to ensure the candidate has enough opportunity to demonstrate their ability in the area.

The table on the next page shows which assessment criteria are assessed during each task. Note that assessment criterion 1.3 – Follow single step verbal instructions correctly for a given task, is assessed once only, based on performance during the whole exam, as following the examiner's instructions correctly is an integral part of the exam itself.

Example examination report

Speaking and Listening – Entry 1

Component 1: Task 1 – Candidate photo							
1	1.2	Obtain necessary information from simple verbal communication for a given task	0	1	2	3	4
2	2.1	Use pronunciation to convey intended meaning	0	1	2	3	4
3	2.2	Use simple language appropriate for context when speaking	0	1	2	3	4
4	3.1	Provide a short verbal account for a given task	0	1	2	3	4
5	3.2	Convey relevant detail during a simple verbal communication	0	1	2	3	4
6	4.2	Express simple views clearly during verbal communication	0	1	2	3	4
Component 1: Task 2 – Examiner photo							
7	1.1	Follow the gist of simple verbal communication	0	1	2	3	4
8	1.2	Obtain necessary information from simple verbal communication for a given task	0	1	2	3	4
9	2.1	Use pronunciation to convey intended meaning	0	1	2	3	4
10	4.1	Make relevant contributions to discussions	0	1	2	3	4
11	4.3	Make effective verbal requests to obtain information	0	1	2	3	4
Component 1: Task 3 – Group discussion							
12	1.1	Follow the gist of simple verbal communication	0	1	2	3	4
13	2.2	Use simple language appropriate for context when speaking	0	1	2	3	4
14	3.1	Provide a short verbal account for a given task	0	1	2	3	4
15	3.2	Convey relevant detail during a simple verbal communication	0	1	2	3	4
16	4.1	Make relevant contributions to discussions	0	1	2	3	4
17	4.2	Express simple views clearly during verbal communication	0	1	2	3	4
18	4.3	Make effective verbal requests to obtain information	0	1	2	3	4
Whole exam							
19	1.3	Follow straightforward verbal instructions correctly for a given task	0	–	2	–	4

Reading and writing

Under QCF regulations, candidates must demonstrate their ability to meet each of the assessment criteria at the assessed level by achieving each assessment criterion at least once during their exam. Candidates who achieve every criterion still need to achieve two thirds overall to pass.

Candidates who achieve two thirds of available overall marks but do not achieve each criterion at least once, cannot be awarded an overall pass for the unit. For this reason, each assessment criterion is assessed twice in the Writing papers, and at least three times in the Reading papers to ensure the candidate has enough opportunity to demonstrate their ability in the area.

Information on your Result Slip

Your Skills for Life Result Slip shows the following information:

◗ Centre name
◗ Candidate name
◗ Candidate number
◗ Date of the examination
◗ Order number
◗ Details of individual assessment criteria achievement
◗ Assessment criteria achieved overview
◗ Overall score
◗ Overall result

Each candidate receives the overall result of Pass or Fail. Should the candidate fail, there are three possible scenarios:

1. The candidate failed to meet one or more of the assessment criteria (Example 1).
2. The candidate failed to achieve two thirds of the overall marks (Example 2).
3. The candidate failed to meet one or more criteria **and** to achieve two thirds of the overall marks (Example 3).

These examples are for Writing at Entry 1, 2 or 3, but apply for Reading and Speaking and Listening as well, and for all levels.

Example 1

TRINITY
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Candidate Result Slip

SfL Writing Entry 3

Centre:

Candidate name :

Candidate number:

Date: 18/03/2015

Order number:

Criteria	Achieved
1.1 Plan text for the intended audience	✓
2.1 Produce content for the intended audience	✓
2.2 Structure main points in short paragraphs	✓
2.3 Sequence text chronologically	✓
2.4 Use grammar correctly	✓
2.5 Use punctuation correctly	✓
2.6 Spell words correctly	✓
3.1 Complete a form with open and closed responses correctly	X

Assessment criteria achieved	7/8
Overall score	29/60
Overall result	Fail

In Example 1, the learner was not awarded a pass as criterion 3.1 was not met, although he or she achieved the necessary two thirds of the overall available mark. This learner needs to work on how to complete a form appropriately and informatively.

Example 2

TRINITY
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Candidate Result Slip

SfL Writing Entry 2

Centre:

Candidate name :

Candidate number:

Date: 18/03/2015

Order number:

Criteria	Achieved
1.1 Present information in an appropriate format for the intended audience	✓
1.2 Construct simple and compound sentences correctly	✓
1.3 Use adjectives correctly	✓
1.4 Use punctuation correctly	✓
1.5 Use upper and lower case letters correctly	✓
1.6 Spell words correctly	✓
2.1 Record personal details in a form correctly	✓

Assessment criteria achieved	7/7
Overall score	30/52
Overall result	Fail

In Example 2, the learner was not awarded a pass as the necessary two thirds of available marks were not achieved, although the learner met all assessment criteria. This learner would have achieved every criterion with only 2 or 3 marks, so needs to work on all aspects of his or her writing in order to pass Entry 2 Writing.

Example 3

TRINITY
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Candidate Result Slip

SfL Writing Entry 1

Centre:

Candidate name :

Candidate number:

Date: 18/03/2015

Order number:

Criteria	Achieved
1.1 Construct simple complete sentences correctly for an intended audience	X
1.2 Use full stops correctly	✓
1.3 Use capitalisation correctly	✓
1.4 Spell words correctly	✓
2.1 Record personal details on a simple form correctly	✓

Assessment criteria achieved	4/5
Overall score	21/36
Overall result	Fail

In Example 3, the learner was not awarded a pass as the two rules for achieving a pass for QCF qualifications, ie meeting all assessment criteria and obtaining at least two thirds of available marks, were not met.