



Our Ref: EX0856/10

Teacher of Languages
(Through the principal)
«school_name»
«PrPostalAddr1»
«PrPostalSuburb» «PrPostalState» «PrPostalPostcode»

Candidates enrolled in 2011 in French Stage 2 and Stage 3, German Stage 2 and Stage 3, Italian Stage 2 and Stage 3

All candidates enrolled in examinations in the above courses need to be identified as background or non-background candidates. Your cooperation is sought in identifying these candidates in your school and communicating the information to the Curriculum Council.

To assist with this process, please find enclosed, for each language offered at your school:

- *Background candidate identification – information and procedures* (pink)
General information about background candidates is provided, together with instructions for the procedures to be followed by teachers in identifying such candidates (reverse side).
- *Background candidate identification form 2011 WACE external examination* (cream)
This form must be completed by all candidates studying any of the languages listed above. Where a student is studying more than one of the listed languages separate forms need to be completed for each language.
- *Scoring sheet* (green)
This sheet provides details on how to score candidates on their responses in Section 4 of the *Background candidate identification form*. A copy of the sheet is provided for each of the languages listed above offered at your school.
- *School summary form* (blue)
This form lists all candidates enrolled in the language at your school.

After all *Background candidate identification* forms have been completed each form should be endorsed by both the teacher in charge of the language and the school principal.

Completed *Background candidate identification* forms and *School summary forms* should be returned **by Friday 5 August 2011** to:

Hanneke Rekelhof
Curriculum Council
27 Walters Drive
OSBORNE PARK WA 6017

Should you have any further queries please contact Hanneke Rekelhof on (08) 9273 6777 or by email at hanneke.rekelhof@curriculum.wa.edu.au.

Hanneke Rekelhof
COORDINATOR EXAMINATIONS (PRACTICAL)

1 July 2011

Background candidate identification – information and procedures

Candidates enrolled in 2011 in French Stage 2 and Stage 3, German Stage 2 and Stage 3, Italian Stage 2 and Stage 3

The following information is provided for teachers and candidates.

Definition of background and non-background candidates:

- **Background candidates** have typically spent the first ten years of their life in a country or area where the target language is used as a first language in the home/community and as the main language of instruction at school.
- **Non-background candidates** have typically learnt all they know about the target language in an Australian school or similar environment. They may have experienced some stays (e.g. exchanges) in a country where the target language is spoken.

Who identifies background candidates?

Background candidates may be identified by:

1. the candidate
2. the school/the teacher
3. the markers of the practical (oral) component of the external examination.

If two of these three indicate that the candidate has a background in the language, the candidate will be classified as a background candidate by the Curriculum Council.

How are private candidates categorised?

Private candidates who enrol for an examination in the languages listed on this form are automatically classified as background candidates unless they demonstrate otherwise by writing to the Director, Moderation and Standards, Curriculum Council, by Friday 5 August 2011, and receive written confirmation about the change in their status.

Why identify background candidates?

Candidates with no significant background in a language usually demonstrate achievement in the corresponding language course commensurate with their general academic achievement. This is not the case with background candidates, who can be expected to achieve at a relatively high level in the target language regardless of their achievement in other courses. Because of this, background candidates tend to distort the scaling process, so they are removed from the statistical moderation and scaling processes. If background candidates were included in the scaling population, non-background candidates would be given lower scaled marks. After the scaling parameters have been determined from the scaling population, they are used to allocate scaled marks to all candidates - including background candidates. It is hoped that teachers will perceive the importance of accurately identifying all background candidates. There is no disadvantage to the marks of candidates who are identified as background candidates.

Can background candidates be awarded Curriculum Council Exhibitions and Awards?

Candidates are eligible to be awarded the Beazley Medal or Curriculum Council General Exhibitions, provided the final mark for the language/s for which they have been identified as a background candidate is not included. Background candidates will not be granted an award in the background language. (Please refer to the *Year 12 Information handbook 2011*.)

Please turn over page for procedures for completing the forms.

Procedure for completion of background candidate identification form

Please note: All candidates enrolled in French Stage 2 and Stage 3, German Stage 2 and Stage 3, Italian Stage 2 and Stage 3 must complete a form.

Completion of form

Teachers **should work with students** to complete all sections of the *Background candidate identification form 2011 WACE external examination* (cream) before completing the details on the *School summary form* (blue).

1. Inform students that being identified as background candidates will not have a negative effect on their final mark in the target language, but that it may make them ineligible for some Curriculum Council awards (refer to the *Year 12 Information handbook 2011*).
2. Distribute the *Background candidate identification form 2011 WACE external examination* to all students and assist them in completing **Sections 2 and 3**.
3. In **Section 4**, instruct your students to complete Columns 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, including **all years from birth** for Columns 1 and 2.
4. Collect the forms from the students, and:
 - Check that students have completed each of **Sections 2 - 4** of the form, as instructed.
 - Enter the relevant scores in **Columns 3 and 7 of Section 4**, and the total score in the box in the bottom right hand side of the page. Refer to the *Scoring sheet* (green) provided for details on allocating points.
 - Copy each student's final score into the box in the top right hand corner on the first page of the form. **Any candidate who scores 20 or above is normally considered to be a background candidate.**
5. Complete the *School summary form* (blue):
 - Under the heading 'Teacher Assessment', tick the YES column next to the name of any candidate who you believe has a background in the language. For students you believe to be non-background candidates, tick the NO column.
 - Ask students who identified themselves as background candidates to sign in the space provided next to their name on the *School summary form*.
 - If the list is not accurate, please amend it with deletions and additions.
6. Arrange for the school principal to:
 - Complete the Principal's declaration (Section 1) on each candidate's form.
 - Endorse the summary form.
7. Please return
 - The completed *School summary form* (blue), and
 - all *Background candidate identification form 2011 WACE external examination* forms (cream)

to Hanneke Rekelhof at the Curriculum Council by **Friday 5th August 2011**.



Hanneke Rekelhof
Curriculum Council
27 Walters Drive
OSBORNE PARK WA 6017



Background candidate identification form 2011 WACE external examination

Please tick the appropriate box

French Stage 2

French Stage 3

Final Score

German Stage 2

German Stage 3

Italian Stage 2

Italian Stage 3

Candidate number:

Candidate name: _____

SECTION 1: Principal's declaration

To be completed by the Principal of the home school for this candidate. (Please complete using CAPITAL LETTERS.)

I certify that the information below is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

This candidate is recommended as a (tick) background non-background speaker in the language selected above.

Name of principal

Principal's signature Date/...../.....

School name Code

Contact person for enquiries Telephone no.

Email address.....

Please comment if you have any additional information relevant to the language background of this candidate.

.....
.....
.....

Completed Background candidate identification and School summary forms to be returned to the Curriculum Council by Friday 5 August 2011.

SECTION 2: Certification by candidate (to be completed in class).

Please check carefully the information you have provided in Sections 3 and 4 before you sign this declaration.

I certify that the following information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I am a (tick) background non-background speaker in the language selected above.

Family name of candidate Given name

Candidate's signature Date/...../.....



SECTION 3: Candidate information

General information

What is your first language/dialect (the one you first learned to speak)?

What languages were spoken at home when you were between the ages of 1 and 10?

.....

What additional languages/dialects other than English can you speak **now**?

(1) (3)

(2) (4)

Are you currently enrolled in or have you completed a pair of Stage 2 and/or Stage 3 English as an Additional Language /Dialect (EAL/D) units?

Yes

No

If 'yes', please specify the language nominated as the first language for the study of EAL/D. _____

Residence

Your date of birth/...../..... Country of birth

If you were born overseas:

Date of your arrival in Australia...../...../..... Age on arrival in Australia years months

Candidate statement

	Most used	Second most used	Third most used
1. Which language(s) do your parents or guardian(s) speak at home with each other?			
2. Which language(s) do your parents or guardian(s) speak at home with you?			
3. Which language(s) do you speak at home with your parents or guardian(s)?			
4. Which language(s) do you speak out of school with your siblings and friends?			
5. Which language(s) can you read for purposes other than schoolwork/homework? (Do not include languages you have learned only in an Australian classroom.)			
6. Which language(s) can you write for purposes other than schoolwork/homework? (Do not include languages you have learned only in an Australian classroom.)			

Please add any additional relevant information.

.....
.....



SECTION 4: Residential and educational history (Please complete using CAPITAL LETTERS).

To be used in conjunction with the scoring sheet.

Candidates to complete Columns 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6.

Teachers to complete Columns 3 and 7.

Column 1*	Column 2*	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Month/Year	Country/place of residence (from birth*)	Score	Name of your full-time day school (from kindergarten)	Academic year (e.g. Year 11, Grade 2)	Language of school instruction (Language/s most commonly used by teachers in class time)	Score
/2011						
/2010						
/2009						
/2008						
/2007						
/2006						
/2005						
/2004						
/2003						
/2002						
/2001						
/2000						
/1999						
/1998						
/1997						
/1996						
/1995						
/1994						

***Columns 1 and 2 require that the candidate includes information from birth to the present.
For Switzerland, please include city or state.**

Final Score

Please copy above score to **page 1** of this form



Scoring Sheet

Background candidate identification form

Scoring of candidate responses to Section 4: Residential and educational history.

FRENCH

For data up to Year 5 or 10 years of age

Allocate 4 points per year if the country or place of residence is one in which French is widely spoken. In addition, allocate 4 points per year if language of school instruction is French and Canadian French.

For data from Year 6 or 11 years of age

Allocate 2 points per year if country or place of residence is one in which French is widely spoken. In addition, allocate 2 points per year if language of school instruction is French and Canadian French.

GERMAN

For data up to Year 5 or 10 years of age

Allocate 4 points per year if the country or place of residence is Germany, Austria and German-speaking regions of Switzerland. In addition, allocate 4 points per year if language of school instruction is German.

For data from Year 6 or 11 years of age

Allocate 2 points per year if the country or place of residence is Germany, Austria or German-speaking regions of Switzerland. In addition, allocate 2 points per year if language of school instruction is German.

ITALIAN

For data up to Year 5 or 10 years of age

Allocate 4 points per year if country or place of residence is Italy or Italian-speaking regions of Switzerland. In addition, allocate 4 points per year if language of school instruction is Italian.

For data from Year 6 or 11 years of age

Allocate 2 points per year if country of residence is Italy or Italian-speaking regions of Switzerland. In addition, allocate 2 points per year if language of school instruction is Italian.

Please turn over page for a scoring sample.



SCORING SAMPLE: The example below shows the scoring for responses from a candidate studying Italian. The same method should be applied for candidates in French and German. Refer to scoring sheet for language-specific details.

Column 1 **	Column 2**	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Month/Year	Country/place of residence (from birth**)	Score	Name of your full-time day school (from kindergarten)	Academic year (e.g. Year 11, Grade 2)	Language of school instruction (Language most commonly used by teachers in class time)	Score
/2011	AUSTRALIA	0	GUM TREE COLLEGE	12	ENGLISH	0
Feb/2010	AUSTRALIA	0	GUM TREE COLLEGE	11	ENGLISH	0
/2009	ITALY	2	SANTO STEFANO	10	ITALIAN	2
/2008	AUSTRALIA	0	GUM TREE COLLEGE	9	ENGLISH	0
/2007	AUSTRALIA	0	GUM TREE COLLEGE	8	ENGLISH	0
/2006	AUSTRALIA	0	GUM TREE COLLEGE	7	ENGLISH	0
/2005	AUSTRALIA	0	GUM TREE COLLEGE	6	ENGLISH	0
/2004	AUSTRALIA	0	KARRIBANK PRIMARY	5	ENGLISH	0
/2003	AUSTRALIA	0	KARRIBANK PRIMARY	4	ENGLISH	0
/2002	AUSTRALIA	0	KARRIBANK PRIMARY	3	ENGLISH	0
/2001	AUSTRALIA	0	KARRIBANK PRIMARY	2	ENGLISH	0
/2000	AUSTRALIA	0	KARRIBANK PRIMARY	1	ENGLISH	0
/1999	AUSTRALIA	0	KARRIBANK PRIMARY	PRE-PRIMARY	ENGLISH	0
/1998	AUSTRALIA	0	RED GUM PRESCHOOL	KINDERGARTE N	ENGLISH	0
Feb /1997	AUSTRALIA	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
/1996	ITALY	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
/1995	ITALY	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sept/1994	ITALY	1*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* As this candidate was born in September, only one (1) point is scored for that year.

**** Columns 1 and 2 require that the candidate include information from birth to present.**

Final Score

13