**NCEA Quiz for Academic Counselling**

**Set 1**

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| **Question** | **Answer** |
| What do you need to pass NCEA Level one? |  |
| NSN - What is this? |  |
| What does NCEA mean? |  |
| When a result is entered on the school system, how long is it until it can be seen on the NZQA website? |  |
| What is one difference between an achievement standard and a unit standard? |  |
| How are you graded in NCEA Achievement standards? |  |
| How are you graded in Unit Standards? |  |
| What is internal assessment? |  |
| What is external assessment? |  |
| What skills are assessed in the literacy achievement standards? |  |

**Set 2**

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| **Question** | **Answer** |
| What is an approved subject for University Entrance? |  |
| Which curriculum level does NCEA Level 1 align with? |  |
| If I don’t get the literacy credits needed for Level 1, can I get NCEA Level 2? |  |
| What is the minimum number of credits needed to attain Level 2 NCEA? |  |
| What is the difference between a School Results Summary and a Record of Achievement? |  |
| What are the options for reassessment? |  |
| How many credits do you need for a single subject endorsement at Merit? |  |
| What do you need to receive a certificate endorsement for NCEA? |  |
| Can externally assessed standards be reassessed? |  |
| What is a derived grade? How is this awarded? |  |
| Why do we have moderation?  How does it work? |  |
| What are the differences between NCEA Level 3 and a National Certificate e.g. one in Business Studies Level 3? |  |

**Set 3**

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| **Question** | **Answer** |
| Minimum amount of credits to attain Level 3 NCEA? |  |
| How many credits do you need to achieve UE literacy currently? |  |
| How many credits do you need to achieve UE numeracy? |  |
| What is the minimum requirement to attend a NZ University from 2014? |  |
| What requirements does the University of Auckland have for entrance from 2016? |  |
| Can results be accumulated over more than one year for UE? |  |
| What is a rank score and why is it important? |  |

**Suggestions for additional questions:**

What does SNA mean as an NCEA grade?

How does SNA differ from ABS?

What is grade score marking?

You have a student in your class whom you think should have Special Assistance with their NCEA assessments. How does the school arrange this? Is the student entitled to Special Assistance for internals? And externals?

**NCEA Quiz Answers**

**Set 1**

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| **Question** | **Answer** |
| What do you need to pass NCEA Level one? | A total of 80 credits including   * 10 literacy * 10 numeracy |
| NSN - What is this? | National Student Number |
| What does NCEA mean? | National Certificate of Educational Achievement |
| When a result is entered on the school system, how long is it until it can be seen on the NZQA website? | At the beginning of the next month (NZQA updates 1st of each month). |
| What is one difference between an achievement standard and a unit standard? | Unit Standards head towards a vocational career (competency based) pathway and Achievement Standards head towards an academic university pathway  You can’t get to University on just Unit Standards  (Many answers to this, including the distinctions shown in the next two answers) |
| How are you graded in NCEA Achievement standards? | Achieved, Merit, Excellence or Not Achieved |
| How are you graded in Unit Standards? | For some unit standardsall grades (N,A,M,E) may be available, but usually there are just two grades:   * Achieved (A) for meeting the criteria of the standard * Not achieved (N) if a student does not meet the criteria of the standard |
| What is internal assessment? | Assessments conducted throughout the year, by class teachers, within the school. All US and some AS are internally assessed. |
| What is external assessment? | Assessments conducted once a year, by specially appointed examiners, through National examinations in November and December each year. Art and Technology portfolios are submitted for assessment in November also. |
| What skills are assessed in the literacy achievement standards? | Reading, writing, listening and speaking  Can also be gained across most curriculum areas at Levels 2 and 3. |

**Set 2**

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| **Question** | **Answer** |
| What is an approved subject for University Entrance? | This subject is approved for the UE award. Not all subjects are on the approved list.  The list of approved subjects and associated achievement standards can be found at:  NZQA >Qualifications and standards>Awards>University Entrance>Approved Subjects for University Entrance |
| Which curriculum level does NCEA Level 1 align with? | Curriculum level 6 |
| If I don’t get the literacy credits needed for Level 1, can I get NCEA Level 2? | No. To gain NCEA at all levels (1-3) students must have L1 Literacy and L1 Numeracy. |
| What is the minimum number of credits needed to attain Level 2 NCEA? | 80 credits made up of 60 Level 2 credits plus 20 credits from Level 1 (can come from previous year’s credits) |
| What is the difference between a School Results Summary and a Record of Achievement? | School results received at beginning of year show standards Not Achieved and the Record of Achievement does not include these. |
| What are the options for reassessment? | Schools have the choice to offer a re-sit **once**, for students who have failed an internal standard after re-teaching. |
| How many credits do you need for a single subject endorsement at Merit or Excellence? | 14 at Merit or Excellence for Merit endorsement, and 14 at Excellence for Excellence endorsement. At least 3 of which must be from an external achievement standard (with the exception of PE, RE and Level 3 Visual Arts which have no externals), and at least 3 credits from an internally assessed standard. |
| What do you need to receive a certificate endorsement for NCEA? | 50 credits with Merit or Excellence. |
| Can externally assessed standards be reassessed? | No, not that year, but they can be redone the following year. Students can apply to have a script reconsidered (remarked) in February. |
| What is a derived grade? How is this awarded? | A derived grade is awarded to students when they are unable to sit an external examination and meet NZQA’s requirements for applying for a derived grade. A derived grade can be awarded based on their performance in practice school examinations for the standard for which they are applying for a derived grade. |
| Why do we have moderation?  How does it work? | This ensures schools maintain similar standards of internal assessment.  Each school will have their own processes for internal moderation. NZQA have a national moderation process whereby each school is required to submit student assessments and supporting documents across the curriculum on an annual basis. |
| What are the differences between NCEA Level 3 and a National Certificate e.g., one in Business Studies Level 3? | NCEA is a school qualification and a National Certificate in Business Studies can be attained through other providers.  NCEA is awarded across many different subject fields and it can be made up of unit standards and achievement standards.  There are over 1000 different National certificates and diplomas and only three NCEA Levels.  Mostly National certificates are designed by industries and can include workplace assessment.  You can get part of a National Certificate in one place and finish it in another. |

**Set 3**

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| **Question** | **Answer** |
| Minimum amount of credits to attain Level 3 NCEA? | 80 credits comprising 60 credits at Level 3 or above and 20 at Level 2 or higher- (can come from previous year’s credits). |
| How many credits do you need to achieve UE literacy currently? | 10 credits at Level 2 or 3 in a range of subjects across the curriculum (5 in writing and 5 in reading). |
| How many credits do you need to achieve UE numeracy? | 10 credits at Level 1 or above. |
| What is the minimum requirement to attend a NZ University from 2014? | Level 3 NCEA. 60 at Level 3. 42 of these credits must be in 3 approved subjects with at least 14 credits in each.  **PLUS**  UE-14 credits in **3** approved subjects, and 14 credits from one additional domain or approved subject at Level 3.  **PLUS**  Literacy requirements-**10** in a range of subjects across the curriculum at Level 2 or higher – (5 reading, 5 writing).  **PLUS**  Numeracy requirements- **10** credits in numeracy in Level 1 or higher. |
| What requirements does the University of Auckland have for entrance from 2016? | As above for UE.  **PLUS** Academic English Language Requirement - 17 credits at Level 2 or above in English. |
| Can results be accumulated over more than one year for UE? | Yes. |
| What is a rank score and why is it important? | A rank score is a score calculated using a student’s top 80 Level 3 Credits (for example, from their top 5 school subjects – Gateway does not count as a subject. The minimum is 3 university approved subjects, 2 subjects can be non-approved)/with points allocated - depending on endorsements. (Excellence - 4 points, Merit - 3 points and Achieved - 2 points).  It is important as it can determine course eligibility for University.  A basic rank score for Auckland University eligibility for a BA degree is 150 points.   * Bio med is 250 points * Engineering is 250 points with 18 credits in calculus and 18 in physics * General science is 160 points |