

Mark Range		Key features applicable in the assessment of examination scripts and essays
A 95-100	Overall	Outstanding answer: exceptionally well structured and informed, showing striking personal insight and originality.
	Understanding	Authoritative; full understanding of relevant material; highly original analysis; highly independent and critical judgment; high degree of precision.
	Selection and Coverage	Unusually extensive range of sources, applied with outstanding insight; exceptionally effective use of evidence to support argument.
	Structure	Excellent structure, focus, presentation and writing style, contributing to a highly compelling argument; excellent use of English.
A- 90-94	Overall	Highly thoughtful answer informed by wider reading, showing clarity of thought, personal insight and originality
	Understanding	Thorough understanding of relevant material; insightful discussion; evidence of independent and critical judgment.
	Selection and Coverage	Extensive range of sources applied insightfully; very effective use of evidence to support argument.
B+ 85-89 B 80-84	Structure	Very good structure and focus; clear and fluent writing style; compelling argument; very effective use of English.
	Overall	Thoughtful answer informed by wider reading, showing clarity of thought and personal insight.
	Understanding	Thorough understanding of relevant material; insightful discussion and analysis.
B- 75-79 C+ 70-74	Selection and Coverage	Extensive range of sources applied insightfully. Effective use of evidence to support argument.
	Structure	Well structured and focused; clear and fluent writing style; persuasive argument; effective use of English.
	Overall	Good understanding or relevant material; coherent and logical argument.
C 65-69 C- 60-64	Understanding	Good understanding of important facts and concepts; substantive analysis of key issues.
	Selection and Coverage	Good use of relevant sources/literature; employment of a range of evidence to support argument.
	Structure	Coherent and logical presentation; good use of English with negligible errors.
D+ 55-59 D 50-54	Overall	Sound understanding; limited analysis.
	Understanding	Generally sound understanding of relevant material but limited range or depth; more descriptive than analytical.
	Selection and Coverage	Appropriate but limited use of sources/literature; attempts to support argument, but these are awkward and/or unconvincing.
0-49 F	Structure	Generally clear presentation but awkward structure and/or limited development of argument; good use of English with some errors.
	Overall	Basic understanding and analysis.
	Understanding	Some general knowledge but little detail; minimal demonstration of analytical thought.
0-49 F	Selection and Coverage	Sparse coverage of basic material; generally unsuccessful in using evidence to support argument.
	Structure	Adequate structure and presentation, but unclear or disorganized in places; errors - punctuation, misuse of words, spelling, sentence construction.
	Overall	Unsystematic, incomplete and/or inaccurate.
0-49 F	Understanding	Some or little knowledge but poor understanding; numerous inaccuracies; meaning often unclear; poor or no analysis.
	Selection and Coverage	Inappropriate and/or very minimal use of sources/literature; poor use of evidence to support argument.
	Structure	Disorganised and unclear presentation; consistently poor spelling and grammar; incoherent argument or none discernible; unacceptably brief