

Marking Criteria for Essays on the Guided Reading Course

Essays are marked according to the following seven criteria (A to G in the table below), with a mark from 0 to 10 given under each heading. The table below outlines in broad terms the standard of work for which these marks are awarded. The marks for these formal criteria are then averaged and translated into a grade as follows:

A	B	C	D	E	U
9-10	7-8	5-6	3-4	1-2	0

A “+” or “-” may be added to the grade to reflect more accurately the standard within a given band.

	10 ... 8	7 ... 5 ... 3	2 ... 0
A. Organisation and structure	Thoroughly logical	Generally logical	Disorganised
B. Relevance of data and discussion	All relevant	Mostly relevant	Mostly irrelevant
C. Coverage of data	Exhaustive	Most key data covered, some secondary data omitted	Key data omitted
D. Argumentation and logic	Ruthless	Generally coherent	Confused
E. Independence of judgment	Clear independence	Largely derivative	No judgment attempted
F. Clarity and style	Clear, precise and elegant	Generally clear, but some imprecision or clumsiness	Unclear, imprecise and clumsy
G. Presentation and apparatus	Few mistakes	Mistakes in most paragraphs	Untidy