

Appendix AH. Assessment Criteria for Examination Essay Questions

Version 2.0

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Essay type answers are usually directed by a single sentence or short paragraph inviting description, discussion and analysis of a topic. There is a large range of work (including reports, surveys and critiques) and question types which may be considered to be in this class.

1st: 80-100%. An outstanding answer which constitutes a comprehensive response. Provides an insightful commentary on the topic and probably provides new insights in the field. In a professional style with good use of technical language where appropriate.

1st: 70-79%. An excellent answer which constitutes a wide-ranging response. Provides a useful commentary on the topic and may provide new insights in the field. . In a professional style with good use of technical language where appropriate.

2(i): 60-69%. A very good answer which covers the field well and probably provides a tutorial level introduction to the field. May have some minor omissions but covers most of the relevant issues and provides significant interpretation. Shows some development from the original material. In an easily read style with reasonable use of technical language where appropriate.

2(ii): 50-59%. A good answer which covers some of the field well but probably suffers from some significant omissions. Shows some interpretation and development of the relevant issues. In a comprehensible style with somewhat marred use of technical language.

3rd: 40-49%. An answer which significantly lacks coverage of the field. Little original development or interpretation. Often drawn mainly from other sources such as lecture material or reference books. Readable but of a poor standard in terms of structure.

Fail:30-39%. Some of the key areas probably considered but usually no original contribution. Often largely drawn directly from lecture notes and standard reference books. Lacks organisation and omits some areas of fundamental importance. May demonstrate superficial or lack of understanding of significant areas.

Fail: 20-29%. A seriously flawed response failing to consider most of the key areas. No useful original content. Little or no analysis or understanding of the field made evident.

Fail: 0-19%. No real attempt at a response due to brevity, major misconceptions, errors or failure to understand what was required.