

	86 - 100	76 - 85	70 - 75	65 - 69	60 - 64	55 - 59	50 - 54
Evidence of fulfilment of all relevant learning outcomes	Overwhelming	Excellent and extensive	Excellent	Very good	Good	Sound	Sound, but with limitations
Response to the question / task	Full command of topic; imaginative approach	Clear command of topic; sophisticated approach	Strong response; sophisticated approach	Very good response	Good response	Generally good response	Fair response
Knowledge and understanding	Thorough, in- depth and impressive understanding	Very wide-ranging and very thorough understanding	Wide-ranging and thorough understanding	Very good understanding of relevant material	Secure understanding of relevant material	Sound understanding of relevant material	Some sound understanding with limitations
Use of sources and evidence	Exceptionally extensive and thorough use	Extensive and very thorough use	Wide and thorough use	Very good use; points consistently supported	Good use; points consistently supported	Generally adequate use but not all points supported	Adequate use but not consistently used effectively
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	Exemplary critical thinking and analysis throughout	Outstanding critical thinking and analysis	Excellent analytical thinking	Very good, with clear evidence of analytical thinking	Good, with evidence of analytical thinking	Acceptable, with some evidence of analytical thinking	Acceptable: some evidence of analytical thinking but some lapses into description or irrelevance
Argument including structure	Exceptionally effective and persuasive argument	Compelling argument, extremely effective and persuasive	Excellent argument, highly effective and persuasive	Very good argument, effective and persuasive	Good argument, generally effective and persuasive	Acceptable argument, generally coherent	Acceptable argument, for the most part coherent but with some limitations
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Lucid and exemplary presentation	Fluent and outstanding presentation	Excellent, clear presentation	Very good, clear presentation	Good, clear presentation	Adequate presentation	Adequate presentation but some flaws
Overall impression	Exemplary	Outstanding	Excellent	Very good	Good	Sound	Sound, but with limitations

	45 - 49	40 – 44	35 - 39	30 - 34	10 - 29	0 – 9
Evidence of fulfilment of all relevant learning outcomes	Sufficient but restricted	Just sufficient	Nearly sufficient	Insufficient, but much is covered	Clearly insufficient	None or minimal
Response to the question / task	Sufficient but restricted response	Just sufficient response	Nearly a sufficient response	Insufficient response	Little response	No response
Knowledge and understanding	Some grasp but many errors and/or gaps in coverage and relevance	Some general understanding but many errors, omissions and misunderstandings	Little grasp with a multitude of errors, misunderstandings and omissions	Barely relevant, largely erroneous	Negligible grasp or relevance with erroneous material	No understanding
Use of sources and evidence	Some but limited use	Some use but poor	Sparse use	Points rarely supported	Minimal use	No use
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	A little evaluation but mostly descriptive	Almost entirely descriptive, some inaccuracies	Unclear and/or inaccurate in places	Unclear and/or inaccurate in many places	Very little or no analysis	No analysis at all
Argument and structure	Some evidence of argument and structure, but lacking clarity	Some attempt at argument and structure, but poor	Disorganised and unclear argument	Very disorganised and unclear argument	Minimal or incoherent argument	No argument
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Basically acceptable presentation, but with flaws	Just acceptable presentation, but a number of flaws	Poor presentation	A multitude of flaws in presentation	Unacceptable presentation; largely incomprehensible	Insufficient evidence
Overall impression	Acceptable	Just acceptable	Poor	Very poor	Unacceptable	Unacceptable

	86 - 100	76 - 85	70 - 75	65 - 69	60 - 64	55 - 59	50 - 54
Evidence of fulfilment of all relevant learning outcomes	Overwhelming	Excellent and extensive	Excellent	Very good	Good	Sound	Sound, but with limitations
Response to the question / task	Full command of topic; imaginative approach	Clear command of topic; sophisticated approach	Strong response; sophisticated approach	Very good response	Good response	Generally good response	Fair response
Knowledge and understanding	Thorough, insightful and impressive understanding	Very wide-ranging and very insightful understanding	Wide-ranging and thorough understanding	Very good understanding of relevant material	Secure understanding of relevant material	Sound understanding of relevant material	Some sound understanding with limitations
Use of sources and evidence	Exceptionally extensive and critical use	Extensive and very insightful use	Wide and well informed use	Very good use; points consistently supported	Good use; points consistently supported	Generally adequate use but not all points supported	Adequate use but not consistently used effectively
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	Exemplary critical judgment and analysis throughout with outstanding independence of thought	Outstanding critical judgment and analysis with independence of thought	Excellent critical judgment and analysis	Very good, with clear evidence of critical thinking	Good, with evidence of critical thinking	Acceptable, with some evidence of critical thinking	Acceptable: some evidence of critical thinking but some lapses into description or irrelevance
Argument including structure	Exceptionally effective and persuasive argument	Compelling argument, extremely effective and persuasive	Excellent argument, highly effective and persuasive	Very good argument, effective and persuasive	Good argument, generally effective and persuasive	Acceptable argument, generally coherent	Acceptable argument, for the most part coherent but with some limitations
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Lucid and exemplary presentation	Fluent and outstanding presentation	Excellent, clear presentation	Very good, clear presentation	Good, clear presentation	Adequate presentation	Adequate presentation but some flaws
Overall impression	Exemplary	Outstanding	Excellent	Very good	Good	Sound	Sound, but with limitations

	45 - 49	40 – 44	35 - 39	30 - 34	10 - 29	0 – 9
Evidence of fulfilment of all relevant learning outcomes	Sufficient but restricted	Just sufficient	Nearly sufficient	Insufficient, but much is covered	Clearly insufficient	None or minimal
Response to the question / task	Sufficient but restricted response	Just sufficient response	Nearly a sufficient response	Insufficient response	Little response	No response
Knowledge and understanding	Some grasp but many errors and/or gaps in coverage and relevance	Some general understanding but many errors, omissions and misunderstandings	Little grasp with a multitude of errors, misunderstandings and omissions	Barely relevant, largely erroneous	Negligible grasp or relevance with erroneous material	No understanding
Use of sources and evidence	Some but limited use	Some use but poor	Sparse use	Points rarely supported	Minimal use	No use
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	A little critical evaluation but mostly descriptive	Almost entirely descriptive, some inaccuracies	Unclear and/or inaccurate in places	Unclear and/or inaccurate in many places	Very little or no analysis	No analysis at all
Argument and structure	Some evidence of argument and structure, but lacking clarity	Some attempt at argument and structure, but poor	Disorganised and unclear argument	Very disorganised and unclear argument	Minimal or incoherent argument	No argument
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Basically acceptable presentation, but with flaws	Just acceptable presentation, but a number of flaws	Poor presentation	A multitude of flaws in presentation	Unacceptable presentation; largely incomprehensible	Insufficient evidence
Overall impression	Acceptable	Just acceptable	Poor	Very poor	Unacceptable	Unacceptable

	86 - 100	76 - 85	70 - 75	65 - 69	60 - 64	55 - 59	50 - 54
Evidence of fulfilment of all relevant learning outcomes	Overwhelming	Excellent and extensive	Excellent	Very good	Good	Sound	Sound, but with limitations
Response to the question / task	Full command of topic; imaginative approach	Clear command of topic; sophisticated approach	Strong response; sophisticated approach	Very good response	Good response	Generally good response	Fair response
Knowledge and understanding	Sophisticated, thorough and impressive understanding	Very wide-ranging and very insightful understanding	Wide-ranging and thorough understanding	Very good understanding of relevant material	Secure understanding of relevant material	Sound understanding of relevant material	Some sound understanding with limitations
Use of sources and evidence	Exceptionally extensive and imaginative use	Extensive and very insightful use	Wide and well informed use	Very good use; points consistently supported	Good use; points consistently supported	Generally adequate use but not all points supported	Adequate use but not consistently used effectively
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	Exemplary critical judgment and analysis throughout with outstanding independence and originality of thought	Outstanding critical judgment and analysis with independence of thought	Excellent critical judgment and analysis	Very good, with clear evidence of critical thinking	Good, with evidence of critical thinking	Acceptable, with some evidence of critical thinking	Acceptable: some evidence of critical thinking but some lapses into description or irrelevance
Argument including structure	Exceptionally effective and persuasive argument	Compelling argument, extremely effective and persuasive	Excellent argument, highly effective and persuasive	Very good argument, effective and persuasive	Good argument, generally effective and persuasive	Acceptable argument, generally coherent	Acceptable argument, for the most part coherent but with some limitations
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Lucid and exemplary presentation	Fluent and outstanding presentation	Excellent, clear presentation	Very good, clear presentation	Good, clear presentation	Adequate presentation	Adequate presentation but some flaws
Overall impression	Exemplary	Outstanding	Excellent	Very good	Good	Sound	Sound, but with limitations

	45 - 49	40 – 44	35 - 39	30 - 34	10 - 29	0 – 9
Evidence of fulfilment of all relevant learning outcomes	Sufficient but restricted	Just sufficient	Nearly sufficient	Insufficient, but much is covered	Clearly insufficient	None or minimal
Response to the question / task	Sufficient but restricted response	Just sufficient response	Nearly a sufficient response	Insufficient response	Little response	No response
Knowledge and understanding	Some grasp but many errors and/or gaps in coverage and relevance	Some general understanding but many errors, omissions and misunderstandings	Little grasp with a multitude of errors, misunderstandings and omissions	Barely relevant, largely erroneous	Negligible grasp or relevance with erroneous material	No understanding
Use of sources and evidence	Some but limited use	Some use but poor	Sparse use	Points rarely supported	Minimal use	No use
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	A little critical evaluation but mostly descriptive	Almost entirely descriptive, some inaccuracies	Unclear and/or inaccurate in places	Unclear and/or inaccurate in many places	Very little or no analysis	No analysis at all
Argument and structure	Some evidence of argument and structure, but lacking clarity	Some attempt at argument and structure, but poor	Disorganised and unclear argument	Very disorganised and unclear argument	Minimal or incoherent argument	No argument
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Basically acceptable presentation, but with flaws	Just acceptable presentation, but a number of flaws	Poor presentation	A multitude of flaws in presentation	Unacceptable presentation; largely incomprehensible	Insufficient evidence
Overall impression	Acceptable	Just acceptable	Poor	Very poor	Unacceptable	Unacceptable

COMMON AWARDS ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AT LEVEL 7

ESSAYS AND OTHER WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

	86 - 100	76 - 85	70 – 75	65 - 69	60 - 64	55 - 59
Evidence of fulfilment of all relevant learning outcomes	Fully satisfied at a consistently high level	Amply satisfied at a high level	Satisfied, many at a high level	Satisfied, some at a high level	Satisfied, many are more than satisfied	Satisfied, some are more than satisfied
Response to the question / task	Comprehensive grasp and original, clear approach	Comprehensive grasp, imaginative approach	Comprehensive grasp and clear approach	Very good grasp	Good grasp	Sound grasp
Knowledge and understanding	Publishable quality; depth and breadth of understanding	Potentially publishable; depth and breadth of understanding	Excellent depth and breadth of understanding	Very good depth and breadth of understanding	Good depth and breadth of understanding	Adequate depth and breadth of understanding
Use of sources and evidence	Exceptionally extensive, critical use including 1 ^o and 2 ^o sources, at forefront of research	Extensive, critical use including 1 ^o and 2 ^o sources, at forefront of research	Critical use including 1 ^o and 2 ^o sources, at forefront of research	Effective use including 1 ^o and 2 ^o sources, at forefront of research	Effective engagement with 1 ^o and 2 ^o sources, some at forefront of research	Sound but inconsistent use including 1 ^o and 2 ^o sources, a few at forefront of research
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	Exceptional research potential; creative, insightful and original, with critical depth	Excellent research potential; insightful and original with critical depth	Able to work at doctoral level; high accuracy, insightful, independent analysis; critical	Potential for research; very good analysis with critical insight	Potential for research; good analysis and some critical insight	Sound analysis but more descriptive than critical; not always persuasive
Argument including structure	Outstanding, fluently articulated argument	Excellent, fluently articulated argument	Very good, lucidly articulated argument	Good argument showing flexible thought	Good argument	Generally coherent argument but incomplete
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Highest professional standards of presentation	Professional standards of presentation	Excellent standards of presentation	Very good, clear presentation	Good, clear presentation	Adequate presentation
Overall impression	Exemplary	Outstanding	Excellent	Very good	Good	Acceptable

	50 – 54	40 - 49	30 - 39	20 - 29	10 - 19	0 – 9
Evidence of fulfilment of all learning outcomes	Satisfied	Some are satisfied	Few are satisfied	Few, if any, are satisfied	Very few, if any, are satisfied	None are satisfied
Response to the question / task	Limited grasp	Inadequate grasp	Confused response only partly relevant	Little relevance to question / task	Barely discernible relevance	No discernible relevance
Knowledge and understanding	Adequate breadth and depth of understanding but some gaps	Some grasp of field but patchy and inadequate	Partial and inadequate grasp of field	Severely limited grasp of field	Barely discernible grasp of field	No grasp of field
Use of sources and evidence	Adequate but inconsistent use including some key literature, but with some omissions	Engagement with some relevant evidence or literature, but with many omissions & little analysis	Marginal engagement with appropriate evidence or literature.	Almost no engagement with appropriate evidence or literature	No relevant engagement with appropriate evidence of literature	No engagement with relevant or appropriate evidence or literature
Critical thinking, reasoning and analysis	Generally sound analysis but more descriptive than critical; sometimes not persuasive	Some analysis but limited; mostly descriptive; little critical evaluation; inaccuracies	Almost entirely descriptive, some inaccuracies, lack of understanding	Lack of clarity, inaccuracies, little understanding	Meaning often unclear, very little understanding	No critical thinking or understanding
Argument including structure	Identifiable argument but weak and narrow in parts	Undeveloped argument	Confused and incoherent argument	Lack of relevance to task	No relevance	None relevant to task
Presentation including clarity of language, spelling, grammar, referencing	Adequate presentation but with some flaws	Generally poor presentation with some significant flaws	Consistently poor presentation with significant flaws	Very poor presentation with many flaws	Very poor presentation with a multitude of flaws	Unacceptable presentation; omissions, errors, irrelevant sources
Overall impression	Adequate	Inadequate on balance	Inadequate	Unacceptable	Unacceptable	Abysmal