

# PAPER 2 COMPARATIVE ESSAY MARKING CRITERIA (HL and SL)

Criterion A: Knowledge, understanding and interpretation	Criterion B: Analysis and evaluation	Criterion C: Focus and organisation	Criterion D: Language
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Marks	Descriptor	Marks	Descriptor	Marks	Descriptor	Marks	Descriptor
0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.	0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.	0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.	0	The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1-2	There is little knowledge and understanding of the works in relation to the question answered.  There is little meaningful comparison of the works used in relation to the question.	1-2	The essay is descriptive and/or demonstrates little relevant analysis of textual features and/or writers' broader choices.	1	The essay rarely focuses on the task. There are few connections between ideas.	1	Language is rarely clear and appropriate; there are many errors in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction and little sense of register and style.
3-4	There is limited knowledge and understanding of the works in relation to the question answered.  There is a superficial attempt to compare the works used in relation to the question.	3-4	The essay contains some appropriate analysis of textual features and/or writers' broader choices, but is reliant on description.  There is a superficial comparison of the writers' choices in the works selected.	2	The essay only sometimes focuses on the task, and treatment of the works may be unbalanced. There are some connections between ideas, but these are not always coherent.	2	Language is sometimes clear and carefully chosen; grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction are fairly accurate, although errors and inconsistencies are apparent; the register and style are to some extent appropriate to the task.
5-6	There is satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the works and an interpretation of their implications in relation to the question answered.  The essay offers a satisfactory interpretation of the similarities and differences between the works used in relation to the question.	5-6	The essay demonstrates a generally appropriate analysis of textual features and/or writers' broader choices, with occasional insights.  There is an adequate comparison of the writers' choices in the works selected.	3	The essay maintains a focus on the task, despite some lapses; treatment of the works is mostly balanced. The development of ideas is mostly logical; ideas are generally connected in a coherent manner.	3	Language is clear and carefully chosen with an adequate degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction despite some lapses; register and style are mostly appropriate to the task.



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7-8	<p>There is good knowledge and understanding of the works and a sustained interpretation of their implications in relation to the question answered.</p> <p>The essay offers a convincing interpretation of the similarities and differences between the works used in relation to the question.</p>	7-8	<p>The essay demonstrates an appropriate and at times insightful analysis of textual features and/or writers' broader choices. There is a good evaluation of how such features and/or choices shape meaning.</p> <p>There is a good comparison of the writers' choices in the works selected.</p>	4	<p>The essay maintains a mostly clear and sustained focus on the task; treatment of the works is balanced. The development of ideas is consistent and logical; ideas are coherently connected.</p>	4	<p>Language is clear and carefully chosen, with a good degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction; register and style are consistently appropriate to the task.</p>
9-10	<p>There is perceptive knowledge and understanding of the works and a persuasive interpretation of their implications in relation to the question answered.</p> <p>The essay offers an insightful interpretation of the similarities and differences between the works used in relation to the question.</p>	9-10	<p>The essay demonstrates an insightful and convincing analysis of textual features and/or writers' broader choices. There is a very good evaluation of how such features and/or choices contribute to meaning.</p> <p>There is a very good comparison of the writers' choices in the works selected.</p>	5	<p>The essay maintains a clear and sustained focus on the task; treatment of the works is well-balanced. The development of ideas is logical and convincing; ideas are connected in a cogent manner.</p>	5	<p>Language is very clear, effective, carefully chosen and precise, with a high degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction; register and style are effective and appropriate to the task.</p>

**Total: 30 Marks**

