

TOK Essay Mark Scheme

Does the candidate present an appropriate and cogent analysis of knowledge questions in discussing the title?						
Aspect	Level 5 Excellent 9-10	Level 4 Very good 7-8	Level 3 Satisfactory 5-6	Level 2 Basic 3-4	Level 1 Elementary 1-2	Irrelevant 0
Typical characteristics						
Understanding knowledge questions	There is a <i>sustained focus on knowledge questions connected</i> to the prescribed title – <i>developed</i> with <i>investigation of different perspectives</i> and <i>linked effectively</i> to <i>areas of knowledge</i> and/or <i>ways of knowing</i> .	There is a <i>focus on knowledge questions connected</i> to the prescribed title – <i>developed</i> with <i>acknowledgement of different perspectives</i> and <i>linked to areas of knowledge</i> and/or <i>ways of knowing</i> .	There is a <i>focus on some knowledge questions connected</i> to the prescribed title – with <i>some development and linking to areas of knowledge</i> and/or <i>ways of knowing</i> .	<i>Some knowledge questions</i> that are <i>connected</i> to the prescribed title are considered, but the essay is largely <i>descriptive</i> , with only <i>superficial or limited links to areas of knowledge</i> and/or <i>ways of knowing</i> .	The essay is <i>almost wholly irrelevant</i> to the prescribed title – any relevant points are <i>descriptive</i> .	The essay is not a response to one of the prescribed titles on the list for the current session.
Quality of analysis of knowledge questions	<i>Arguments</i> are <i>clear</i> , supported by <i>effective real life examples</i> and are <i>effectively evaluated</i> ; <i>counterclaims</i> are fully <i>explored</i> ; <i>implications</i> are <i>drawn</i> .	Arguments are <i>clear</i> , supported by <i>real life examples</i> and are <i>evaluated</i> ; <i>counterclaims</i> are <i>explored</i> .	<i>Some arguments</i> are <i>clear</i> and supported by <i>examples</i> ; <i>counterclaims</i> may be <i>identified</i> .	Arguments are <i>unclear</i> and/or <i>not supported by effective examples</i> .	<i>Assertions</i> may be offered but are <i>not supported</i> .	
Some possible characteristics						
	Cogent Accomplished Discerning Individual Lucid Insightful Compelling	Pertinent Relevant Thoughtful Analytical Organised Credible Coherent	Typical Acceptable Mainstream Adequate Competent Predictable Ordinary	Undeveloped Vague Simple Disjointed Confusing Derivative Rudimentary	Paltry Abysmal Incoherent Trivial Formless	