

Modern History marking guide and response

External assessment 2025

Short response (48 marks)

Assessment objectives

This assessment instrument is used to determine student achievement in the following objectives:

1. comprehend terms, concepts and issues linked to a topic focused on international experiences in the Modern World
3. analyse evidence from historical sources to show understanding that is linked to a topic focused on international experiences in the Modern World
4. synthesise evidence from historical sources to form a historical argument that is linked to a topic focused on international experiences in the Modern World
5. evaluate evidence from historical sources to make judgments linked to a topic focused on international experiences in the Modern World
6. create responses that communicate meaning to suit purpose that is linked to a topic focused on international experiences in the Modern World.

Note: Unit objective 2 is not assessed in this instrument.

Purpose

This document consists of a marking guide and a sample response.

The marking guide:

- provides a tool for calibrating external assessment markers to ensure reliability of results
- indicates the correlation, for each question, between mark allocation and qualities at each level of the mark range
- informs schools and students about how marks are matched to qualities in student responses.

The sample response:

- demonstrates the qualities of a high-level response
- has been annotated using the marking guide.

Mark allocation

Where a response does not meet any of the descriptors for a question or a criterion, a mark of '0' will be recorded.

Marking guide

Question 1

Criterion: Analysing

The response:

- explains the relationship between the USA and Australia during the VW, with reference to the policy of forward defence **[1 mark]**
- uses well-chosen evidence from Source 1 **[1 mark]**
- uses well-chosen evidence from Source 2 **[1 mark]**

Criterion: Comprehending

The response:

- includes term/s from Source 1 **[1 mark]**
- includes term/s from Source 2 **[1 mark]**
- uses relevant terms from Source 1 and/or 2 that are placed in historical context **[1 mark]**

Question 2

Criterion: Analysing

The response:	M
Personal challenges	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">explains the extent to which the Australian historians and Zaat have a shared view about the experiences of Australian VW veterans, using well-chosen evidence from Source 3	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">explains the extent to which the Australian historians and Zaat have a shared view about the experiences of Australian VW veterans, using evidence from Source 3	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">explains the extent to which the Australian historians and Zaat have a shared view about the experiences of Australian VW veterans, referring to evidence from Source 3	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0
Military challenges	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">explains the extent to which the Australian historians and Zaat have a shared view about the experiences of Australian VW veterans, using well-chosen evidence from Source 3	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">explains the extent to which the Australian historians and Zaat have a shared view about the experiences of Australian VW veterans, using evidence from Source 3	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">explains the extent to which the Australian historians and Zaat have a shared view about the experiences of Australian VW veterans, referring to evidence from Source 3	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion: Comprehending

The response:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">includes one term from Source 3 [1 mark]includes a second term from Source 3 [1 mark]uses relevant terms from Source 3 that are placed in historical context [1 mark]

Question 3

Criterion: Evaluating

The response:	M
Source 4	
• explains a discerning judgment about usefulness, using well-chosen evidence from the source	3
• explains a judgment about usefulness, using evidence from the source	2
• makes a statement about the usefulness of evidence from the source	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0
Source 5	
• explains a discerning judgment about usefulness, using well-chosen evidence from the source	3
• explains a judgment about usefulness, using evidence from the source	2
• makes a statement about the usefulness of evidence from the source	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0
Source 6	
• explains a discerning judgment about usefulness, using well-chosen evidence from the source	3
• explains a judgment about usefulness, using evidence from the source	2
• makes a statement about the usefulness of evidence from the source	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion: Comprehending

The response:

- uses relevant term/s that are placed in historical context
 - from Source 4 **[1 mark]**
 - from Source 5 **[1 mark]**
 - from Source 6 **[1 mark]**

Criterion: Creating and communicating

The response:

M

- | | |
|---|---|
| • organises paragraph/s purposefully to succinctly and fluently convey ideas relating to the question | 3 |
| • organises paragraph/s to convey ideas relating to the question | 2 |
| • conveys ideas related to the question | 1 |
| • does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. | 0 |

Question 4

Criterion: Synthesising

The response:	M
Argument	
• develops a sophisticated historical argument that responds to the question fully	4
• develops a valid historical argument that responds to the question	3
• develops a basic historical argument that responds to the question	2
• develops statements that respond to the question	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0
Combining evidence	
• skilfully combines well-chosen evidence from four sources to develop the historical argument	5
• skilfully combines well-chosen evidence from three sources to develop the historical argument	4
• combines relevant evidence from three sources to develop the historical argument	3
• combines relevant evidence from two sources to develop the historical argument	2
• refers to evidence from at least one source to develop statements	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion: Evaluating

The response:	M
• explains a discerning judgment about the extent to which evidence from two of the sources corroborates the historical argument being presented	3
• explains a judgment about the extent to which evidence from two of the sources corroborates the historical argument being presented	2
• makes statements about corroboration that relate to the historical argument being presented	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion: Comprehending

The response:
• includes term/s from two of the nominated sources [1 mark]
• includes term/s from another two of the nominated sources [1 mark]
• uses relevant terms from Sources 7, 8, 9 and 10 that are placed in historical context [1 mark]

Criterion: Creating and communicating

The response:	M
• organises paragraph/s purposefully to succinctly and fluently convey ideas relating to the question	3
• organises paragraph/s to convey ideas relating to the question	2
• conveys ideas related to the question	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0



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