Philosophy & Reason marking guide and response

External assessment 2022

Extended response (50 marks)

Assessment objectives

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

1. define and use terminology relating to political philosophy in order to demonstrate an understanding of meaning
2. explain concepts, methods, principles and theories relating to political philosophy
3. interpret and analyse arguments, ideas and information relating to political philosophy
4. organise and synthesise ideas and information to understand, engage with and construct arguments relating to political philosophy
5. evaluate claims and arguments inherent in theories and views relating to political philosophy
6. create an analytical essay response that communicates ideas and arguments relating to political philosophy.

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.

Where no response to a question has been made, a mark of ‘N’ will be recorded.

Marking guide

Criterion 1: Defining, using and explaining

Using terminology

The response, for the first political philosophy selected:	M	The response, for the second political philosophy selected:	M
• consistently and appropriately uses relevant terminology throughout	4	• consistently and appropriately uses relevant terminology throughout	4
• consistently and appropriately uses relevant terminology throughout, with minor errors or omissions	3	• consistently and appropriately uses relevant terminology throughout, with minor errors or omissions	3
• appropriately uses some relevant terminology	2	• appropriately uses some relevant terminology	2
• includes some terminology that refers to the political philosophy	1	• includes some terminology that refers to the political philosophy	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0	• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Explaining concepts

The response, for the first political philosophy selected:	M	The response, for the second political philosophy selected:	M
• explains in detail assumptions concerning human nature in the political philosophy that are accurate in all key aspects	4	• explains in detail assumptions concerning human nature in the political philosophy that are accurate in all key aspects	4
• explains assumptions concerning human nature in the political philosophy that are accurate in most key aspects	3	• explains assumptions concerning human nature in the political philosophy that are accurate in most key aspects	3
• describes an assumption concerning human nature in the political philosophy **OR** • explains key tenets of the political philosophy	2	• describes an assumption concerning human nature in the political philosophy **OR** • explains key tenets of the political philosophy	2
• describes an aspect of the political philosophy	1	• describes an aspect of the political philosophy	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0	• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion 2: Interpreting and analysing

Determining relationships

The response, for the first political philosophy selected:	M	The response, for the second political philosophy selected:	M
• determines significant relationships within and between ideas and arguments connected to the political philosophy and the concept of human nature	4	• determines significant relationships within and between ideas and arguments connected to the political philosophy and the concept of human nature	4
• determines a significant relationship within and between ideas and arguments connected to the political philosophy and the concept of human nature	3	• determines a significant relationship within and between ideas and arguments connected to the political philosophy and the concept of human nature	3
• identifies relationships within and between ideas and arguments connected to either the political philosophy or the concept of human nature	2	• identifies relationships within and between ideas and arguments connected to either the political philosophy or the concept of human nature	2
• states an idea, concept or feature connected to the political philosophy	1	• states an idea, concept or feature connected to the political philosophy	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0	• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Deconstructing arguments

The response, for the first political philosophy selected:	M	The response, for the second political philosophy selected:	M
• provides a precise deconstruction of argument/s relating to the concept of human nature • accurately identifies premises and conclusion/s	4	• provides a precise deconstruction of argument/s relating to the concept of human nature • accurately identifies premises and conclusion/s	4
• provides a considered deconstruction of argument/s relating to the concept of human nature • accurately identifies premises and conclusion/s	3	• provides a considered deconstruction of argument/s relating to the concept of human nature • accurately identifies premises and conclusion/s	3
• provides a deconstruction of argument/s • identifies some relevant premises and links them to a conclusion	2	• provides a deconstruction of argument/s • identifies some relevant premises and links them to a conclusion	2
• states a premise or conclusion relating to the concept of human nature	1	• states a premise or conclusion relating to the concept of human nature	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0	• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion 3: Organising, synthesising and evaluating

Evaluating claims, arguments and views

The response, for the first political philosophy selected:	M	The response, for the second political philosophy selected:	M
• provides an insightful and justified evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy using relevant criteria • uses all appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	4	• provides an insightful and justified evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy using relevant criteria • uses all appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	4
• provides a justified evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy using criteria • uses most appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	3	• provides a justified evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy using criteria • uses most appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	3
• provides an evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy • uses some appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	2	• provides an evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy • uses some appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	2
• provides an evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy **OR** • provides an evaluation of an argument or its claims	1	• provides an evaluation of the tenets of the political philosophy **OR** • provides an evaluation of an argument or its claims	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0	• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Constructing arguments

The response:	M
• skilfully constructs a cogent argument on either: – the extent to which the selected political philosophies are based on reliable assumptions concerning human nature (Q1) – whether it is important that a political philosophy be in accordance with human nature (Q2) • uses relevant philosophical ideas effectively to support this argument • demonstrates discerning use of the stimulus	5
• constructs a cogent argument on either: – the extent to which the selected political philosophies are based on reliable assumptions concerning human nature (Q1) – whether it is important that a political philosophy be in accordance with human nature (Q2) • uses relevant philosophical ideas to support this argument • demonstrates competent use of the stimulus	4
• constructs an argument on either: – the extent to which the selected political philosophies are based on reliable assumptions concerning human nature (Q1) – whether it is important that a political philosophy be in accordance with human nature (Q2) • uses philosophical ideas to support this argument • demonstrates use of the stimulus	3
• states a perspective on either: – the extent to which the selected political philosophies are based on reliable assumptions concerning human nature (Q1) – whether it is important that a political philosophy be in accordance with human nature (Q2) • uses an idea/s to support this perspective	2
• includes a statement on either: – the extent to which the selected political philosophies are based on reliable assumptions concerning human nature (Q1) – whether it is important that a political philosophy be in accordance with human nature (Q2)	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion 4: Creating and communicating

The response:	M
• conveys ideas and arguments in response to the question succinctly, purposefully and fluently • uses the analytical essay genre, with paragraphs logically sequenced to support a central thesis	5
• conveys ideas and arguments relating to the question fluently • uses the analytical essay genre, with paragraphs sequenced to support a central thesis	4
• conveys ideas and arguments relating to the question • uses some features of the analytical essay genre	3
• conveys ideas and arguments relating to the question	2
• conveys an idea or argument relating to the question	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

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