Philosophy & Reason marking guide and response

External assessment 2024

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 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 error/s or omission/s	3	• consistently and appropriately uses relevant terminology throughout, with minor error/s or omission/s	3
• appropriately uses some relevant terminology	2	• appropriately uses some relevant terminology	2
• includes some terminology that is relevant to the political philosophy	1	• includes some terminology that is relevant 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
• clearly explains a notion of obligation in the political philosophy that is plausible in all key aspects	4	• clearly explains a notion of obligation in the political philosophy that is plausible in all key aspects	4
• explains a notion of obligation in the political philosophy that is plausible in most key aspects	3	• explains a notion of obligation in the political philosophy that is plausible in most key aspects	3
• explains tenets of the political philosophy	2	• explains 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
• insightfully determines relationships within or between ideas relevant to the political philosophy to examine its notion of obligation	4	• insightfully determines relationships within or between ideas relevant to the political philosophy to examine its notion of obligation	4
• determines a relationship within or between ideas relevant to the political philosophy to examine its notion of obligation	3	• determines a relationship within or between ideas relevant to the political philosophy to examine its notion of obligation	3
• identifies relationships within or between ideas relevant to the political philosophy	2	• identifies relationships within or between ideas relevant to the political philosophy	2
• identifies a relationship within or between ideas relevant to the political philosophy	1	• identifies a relationship within or between ideas relevant 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 in the political philosophy that are relevant to its notion of obligation • accurately identifies premises and conclusion/s	4	• provides a precise deconstruction of argument/s in the political philosophy that are relevant to its notion of obligation • accurately identifies premises and conclusion/s	4
• provides a considered deconstruction of argument/s in the political philosophy that are relevant to its notion of obligation • identifies premises and conclusion/s, with minor error/s	3	• provides a considered deconstruction of argument/s in the political philosophy that are relevant to its notion of obligation • identifies premises and conclusion/s, with minor error/s	3
• provides a deconstruction of argument/s in the political philosophy	2	• provides a deconstruction of argument/s in the political philosophy	2
• examines a claim or idea in the political philosophy	1	• examines a claim or idea in the political philosophy	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 tenets of the political philosophy relevant to its notion of obligation • uses all appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	4	• provides an insightful and justified evaluation of tenets of the political philosophy relevant to its notion of obligation • uses all appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	4
• provides a justified evaluation of tenets of the political philosophy relevant to its notion of obligation • uses most appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	3	• provides a justified evaluation of tenets of the political philosophy relevant to its notion of obligation • uses most appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	3
• provides an evaluation of tenets of the political philosophy • uses some appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	2	• provides an evaluation of tenets of the political philosophy • uses some appropriate criteria in the evaluation of an argument and its claims	2
• provides an evaluation of a tenet of the political philosophy **OR** • provides an evaluation of an argument or its claims	1	• provides an evaluation of a tenet 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 in response to the question • uses relevant philosophical ideas and the stimulus effectively to support this argument	5
• constructs a cogent argument in response to the question • uses relevant philosophical ideas and the stimulus to support this argument	4
• constructs an argument in response to the question • uses philosophical ideas and/or the stimulus to support this argument	3
• states a perspective in response to the question • uses an idea to support this perspective	2
• includes a statement in response to the question	1
• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion 4: Creating and communicating

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

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