

# Assessment highlights insights

from Chloe Curtis, Principal Education Officer for Ancient History

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## Q Why was this student response selected for Assessment highlights?

A Maximilian's response demonstrates the characteristics in the descriptors at the top performance level for all criteria. The focus of the assessment closely aligns with Unit 4: People, power and authority and the subject matter in Topic 5: Rome — Civil War and the breakdown of the Roman Republic. Maximilian focused on Crassus and his influence in the final decades of the Roman Republic.

## Q How has the student effectively responded to the school's assessment instrument and demonstrated the qualities of the top performance-level descriptors (PLDs) of the instrument-specific marking guide?

A Maximilian created a nuanced key inquiry question that has been addressed in the form of a historical essay based on research. The response demonstrates detailed use of historical research with evidence from primary and secondary sources that offer different perspectives to address the key inquiry question and support the hypothesis. The response contains thorough and mostly accurate use of terms in their historical context, a detailed explanation of issues related to the key inquiry question, and an informed understanding of the relationship between concepts and the ideas developed in the response to the key inquiry question.

Analysis of the features of evidence in both primary and secondary sources is discerning and detailed and there is an informed explanation of how the evidence contributes to the development of the key inquiry question and hypothesis. Evidence from primary and secondary sources has been synthesised to support a sophisticated historical argument, which is sustained throughout the response and justified by insightful decisions. Maximilian's judgments about the usefulness and reliability of primary and secondary sources that refer to different perspectives are discerning, well-reasoned and corroborated.

The response logically conveys ideas related to the key inquiry question and hypothesis. Maximilian included all features of a historical essay based on research and ethical scholarship is consistently demonstrated with minimal errors.

## Q What are the qualities or features of the student's response that made it stand out from other student responses?

A Maximilian's response is well-structured and clearly written. Evidence has been analysed, evaluated and synthesised fluently to support the development of a sophisticated historical argument. Thoughtful and astute choices have clearly been made to ensure the response is succinct and achieves its purpose.

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