

The treatment of such a topic can easily become little more than a narration of events but this particular essay produced a tightly argued, consistently focused and analytical treatment of the clearly expressed research question.

While a better treatment of scope in the abstract is necessary, the essay itself is an impressive example of how the student has married a grasp of technical detail with critical commentary on a variety factors involved in explaining victory/defeat. It also manages to effect a consideration of the value and limitations of sources in an integrated fashion in the work. The referencing system is of the 'in text' variety, which is perfectly acceptable (though some readers may favour a footnoting system).

No doubt readers may quibble over the use of language at a few points, but as an exercise in selecting an appropriate task and finding, structuring and deploying relevant information (chosen from a wide variety of sources) to address the question, the student is to be credited.