

INDONESIAN A1

Overall grade boundaries

Grade:	E	D	C	B	A
Mark range:	0 - 7	8 - 15	16 - 22	23 - 28	29 - 36

The range and suitability of the work submitted

Generally all the extended essays submitted were on a good range of topics and were suitable for a language A1 extended essay. However, some topics veered towards a group 2 rather than group 1 approach with regards to literature. Essays that discussed social issues, politics, history and religion were not sufficient for a study of literature.

Candidate performance against each criterion

A: research question

Generally the majority of candidates had very good knowledge and understanding of how and what the requirements are, and it was exemplified in the quality of their writing and essay. Not all candidates stated their research question clearly at the start of their essay.

B: introduction

The introduction was generally very well written, providing for an elaboration on the important aspects of their research. Candidates with less ability tended to show a lack of depth and explanation in their introduction.

C: investigation

Due to the fact that many candidates focused on a single work in their research, their investigation tended to include a lot of biographical information about the author. Some of them included a psychoanalytic theory that was not necessary in the literature essay. There was at times, an evident lack of planning.

There was a tendency to be repetitive in work that was not carefully planned.

Candidates who studied poetry had a tendency to be more structured in their approach to the investigation and were thus able to support their finding using appropriate references.

D: knowledge and understanding of the topic studied

Although the majority of the candidates had good knowledge and understanding of the topic studied, not many of them achieved the higher marks due to a significant lack of detail.

E: reasoned argument

In the presentation and development of their arguments, the majority of the candidates achieved high marks, but in some essays by candidates who chose to veer away from the literary aspects had the tendency to write in a more generic sense, with little reference and evidence to support their arguments. Once again candidates whose studies were on poetry were able to argue convincingly in their essay.

F: application of analytical and evaluative skills appropriate to the subject

The majority of the candidates were able to appropriately analyse and evaluate their findings, whilst weaker candidates had the tendency to write a descriptive finding, with little analysis or evaluation.

G: use of language appropriate to the subject

Generally the candidates used formal and appropriate language; however there were numerous spelling mistakes, awkward expressions, and incorrect grammar. The use of English words should be avoided and the Indonesian equivalent should be sought in each instance. Candidates who discussed social issues, politics, history or religion had the tendency to use colloquial language.

H: conclusion

The majority of candidates achieved a high mark, but some of the candidates were not able to write conclusively about their findings. Bullet-points in the place of a crafted conclusion should be avoided.

I: formal presentation

Numerous candidates are unaware of how to correctly construct a bibliography. Many were inconsistent either with sources. Page numbers, quotations and references were generally inconsistent.

J: abstract

The abstract was generally written appropriately, though some abstracts veered more towards being a synopsis.

K: holistic judgment

For holistic judgment, the essay had to include considerable evidence of certain qualities to gain full marks. Generally if the candidate's essay achieved high marks in majority of the criteria, they were able to gain full mark in this criterion.

Recommendations for the supervision of future candidates

For future candidates, it is important that the criteria are read and processed in full, for the extended essay task to be a fulfilling and successful task. It would be an idea to read and find several references and sources before embarking on their essay to inspire them and give them solid background knowledge, and after that they can start working on the theme and consequently topic. Candidates need to be encouraged not to focus on one sole work to write their essay: the more they read the more material they have to work with. They need to be encouraged to re-read their essay on completion, and again with the aim of spotting avoidable mistakes and careless errors. Authenticity of the work is very important, and so candidates need to be encouraged to carefully source information.

Further comments

All extended essays in this group 1 option should only discuss the literary aspects of the works, and should not focus on social issues, politics, religion or history (that might be portrayed in the work/s). Candidates should be encouraged to read a lot about the topic, so as to be well informed before they commence writing their essay.