

May 2012 extended essay reports

## INDONESIAN A1

### Overall grade boundaries

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

### The range and suitability of the work submitted

The topics were varied, and fewer candidates made the mistake of focussing on history, psychology or sociology rather than on literature than in previous sessions.

### Candidate performance against each criterion

#### Criterion A: research question

The majority of candidates were able to write their research question in the introduction. However, some still put it in a later part of the essay. Some candidates chose too broad a research question.

#### Criterion B: introduction

Not all candidates were able to explain the purpose of their research and how they intended to discuss their topic.

#### Criterion C: investigation

Investigation was not always sufficiently thorough as many of the candidates only used one book to write their extended essay. This severely restricted a full exploration of the topic.

#### Criterion D: knowledge and understanding of the topic studied

Generally all candidates understood the books they used.

#### Criterion E: reasoned argument

Most candidates were able to show their knowledge of the literary works, but in this criterion their arguments were sometimes underdeveloped. Arguments need to be specific and provide supporting evidence.

#### Criterion F: application of analytical and evaluative skills

The majority of candidates were able to produce persuasive analysis in their essays. However some candidates wrote about the story or plot of a literary work rather than focussing on a theme or literary device.

**Criterion G: use of language**

Most candidates were able to use good Indonesian in their essays. However some essays were spoiled by spelling mistakes and the use of English words.

**Criterion H: conclusion**

Although the majority of candidates were able to write a conclusion, not every essay finished convincingly.

**Criterion I: formal presentation**

Most candidates kept within the word limit of 4000 words.

**Criterion J: abstract**

Some candidates failed to write their abstract as required. A few abstracts were less than 100 words while others were over the 300 word limit. Candidates need to remember that in the abstract they must complete the three required elements.

**Criterion K: holistic judgment**

Holistically many candidates showed a real engagement with their topics.

**Recommendations for the supervision of future candidates**

- Make sure that the topic is challenging enough for the candidates to write and research.
- Candidates should use as many references as possible so they can research around the topic. Looking for appropriate sources and selecting which sources might be included in the extended essay is an interesting and rewarding task. It develops skills which will benefit the candidate in the next stage of their educational development.
- Remember that the *Extended essay guide* states that a maximum of five hours is suggested for supervision. Candidates should be encouraged to do their own independent learning. Excessive supervision is not recommended.