

UG Marking Guidelines - Essay and Literature Survey

Grade Descriptors

Guidelines for marking essays/short answers/literature surveys

Class	Mark	Marking guidelines
First		<p>1) Narrative is both logical and coherent</p> <p>2) Deep understanding of appropriate sources</p> <p>3) Material well-selected and highly relevant, going beyond basic or 'core' materials</p> <p>4) Strong evidence of original critical reflection and an analytical approach</p>
Excellent First	100	Assignment reaches an exceptional level of achievement that significantly exceeds the standards described by the above statements
Good First	90	Assignment exceeds the standards described by the above statements
Solid First	80	Assignment is well described by the above statements
Low First	75	Assignment mostly meets the standards described by the above statements
Upper Second		<p>1) Narrative is mostly logical and coherent</p> <p>2) Good understanding of appropriate sources</p> <p>3) Material well-selected and relevant for the most part</p> <p>4) Some evidence of original critical reflection and an analytical approach</p>
Good 2.1	68	Assignment exceeds the standards described by the above statements but does not meet the standards for a first class mark
Solid 2.1	65	Assignment is well described by the above statements
Low 2.1	62	Assignment mostly meets the standards described by the above statements
Lower Second		<p>1) Broadly logical and coherent narrative, but showing signs of structure breaking down</p> <p>2) Clear understanding of appropriate sources, but somewhat superficial in scope</p> <p>3) Material broadly relevant, but with evidence of irrelevant text</p> <p>4) Superficial evidence of original critical reflection and an analytical approach</p>
Good 2.2	58	Assignment exceeds the standards described by the above statements but does not meet the standards for an upper second class mark
Solid 2.2	55	Assignment is well described by the above statements

Low 2.2	52	Assignment mostly meets the standards described by the above statements
Third		<p>1) <i>Narrative suffers from illogical or incoherent passages</i></p> <p>2) <i>Limited understanding of appropriate sources</i></p> <p>3) <i>Material relevant in parts, but irrelevant text also present throughout</i></p> <p>4) <i>Evidence of original critical reflection is lacking</i></p>
Good Third	48	Assignment exceeds the standards described by the above statements but does not meet the standards for a second class mark
Solid Third	45	Assignment is well described by the above statements
Low Third	42	Assignment falls below the standards described by the above statements
Fail		<p>1) <i>A minimally logical narrative, with incoherent structure throughout</i></p> <p>2) <i>No evidence that appropriate sources were understood</i></p> <p>3) <i>Material is almost entirely irrelevant to the topic</i></p>
High Marginal Fail	38	Assignment exceeds the standards described by the above statements but does not meet the standards for a pass mark
Low Marginal Fail	32	Assignment is well described by the above statements
Outright Fail	10	Assignment falls below the standards described by the above statements
Zero Marks	0	1) <i>No psychology-related content.</i>

Grade assignment decision rules

Note. If an assignment meets some of the descriptive criteria for a degree class (e.g. 2:1), and some of the descriptive criteria for another degree class (e.g. 2:2), it is at the discretion of the marker where to assign the grade (i.e. somewhere in the 2:1 or 2:2 range).