

Extended Essay: Exemplar Commentary		
Subject	Psychology	
Title of essay	Changes in Intelligence	
Assessment of extended essay		
Criteria	Mark awarded	Commentary
A: Focus and method [6]	4	In the introduction the topic is identified and explained and the Research question clearly worded. However, connections to the Research question are only occasionally offered throughout the essay, impacting on focus. The lack of a description of essay methodology and why it was selected contributes to the lack of explicit focus.
B: Knowledge and understanding [6]	3	Knowledge and understanding of source materials is largely sound and the selection of material is usually relevant. However, the use of specialist terminology is not always accurate, indicating some problems in knowledge of the subject. Additionally, there are problems with clarity impacting the demonstration of knowledge and understanding.
C: Critical thinking [12]	5	There is a limited application of resources with some appropriate evaluation, but more is required. The argument explains the research, but the reasoning contains gaps. The summative conclusion needs more focus on the Research question's "To what extent...?"
D: Presentation [4]	1	The structure is largely appropriate but there are serious citation/referencing problems. Under the new requirements this essay must be referred as a possible case of academic misconduct due to incorrect and inconsistent citing and referencing.
E: Engagement [6] (not included)		The assessment of an accompanying RPPF will affect the overall mark awarded and the grade achieved.
Total marks awarded	13/28	There is a somewhat descriptive account with insufficient evaluation, most of which lacks balance, ie a consideration of both strengths and limitations before accepting the results of research. The confusion over the accurate identification of research methodologies may have been avoided with a fuller reading of sources. Please note: as a result of modifying existing extended essays for illustrative purposes, not all exemplars have an accompanying RPPF for assessment under criterion E (this is a mandatory element for all essays as of 2018).

		<p>As a result, this essay has been marked out of 28 rather than 34.</p>
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