

## Arabic A Extended Essay

### 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 majority of candidates presented works based on Arabic literature. Only few candidates selected their topics from a different research area. Both classical and modern periods were consulted for the selection of the research whether in literary or social fields. Such an extensive variety of themes offered a wide choice from which candidates could choose their research topics. They generally presented accepted essays which appeared appropriate in nature and also suitable for investigation. The majority of candidates, as it appeared, were influenced by their teachers when choosing their topics without having the chance to select their researches by themselves. Although the works submitted showed some independence in thoughts but some significant elements of the essays were missing. Some schools seemed to specialize in certain themes, but these resulted in the presentation of different standards of essays and the awarded grades.

### Candidate performance against each criterion

The majority of candidates had their research questions openly stated on the essay cover. In certain essays some introduction elements were missing while the context of the research question was stated with an explanation of the significance of the selected topic. There was a variety in the research investigation among candidates; some of them consulted websites more than references or sources in book form, while others referred to both sources for their investigation and the collection of their research material. In the knowledge and understanding criterion, candidates showed a rather good comprehension of their consulted data but there was a big variation in the reasoned argument due to the lack of understanding of this feature. The same result applies to the analysis and evaluation criterion. The usage of language was satisfactory although most essays witnessed some grammatical and linguistic lapses. The majority of candidates showed a good skill in their research conclusions while only few failed to present a proper abstract due to the lack of some significant elements. Some abstracts suffered from incomplete elements while others were well presented. This

showed the lack of proper knowledge of the abstract elements and its contents. In their formal presentation, the majority of candidates remained within the word limit of the essay and seemed well organized in their presentation. Only few candidates failed to present well shaped essays perhaps because of lack of supervision. In the holistic judgment criterion, the majority of candidates if not all were awarded 2-3 marks out of 4 as essays showed variation in level and standard.

## Recommendations for the supervision of future candidates

It was well observed that the majority of candidates still need to master the proper essay writing techniques and the appropriate academic research requirements. The significance of the formal writing in an academic style is also required for the presentation of systematic and organized works. School teachers play a major role in the supervision process are asked to spend an appropriate amount of time with their candidates, guiding them to the appropriate academic requirements which are necessary for proper literary research. Candidates also need to be reminded not to concentrate on less significant aspects on the detriment of the major research topic. The proper organization of essays is also required and more attention should be paid to the employment of the proper usage of register in order to avoid grammatical and linguistic lapses and errors. Supervising teachers are strongly advised to remind their candidates not to depend mainly on the websites only for the collection of their material but they should also make an effort to consult other sources and references in book form. Some teachers are also reminded to state as required, the number of hours they spent with their candidates and record their comments on their effort on the cover sheet of the essay.