

AEL31

A2:3 Internal Assessment

Candidates should demonstrate the following skills in their response:

- knowledge and understanding of texts;
- ability to organise and support ideas in a logical manner;
- ability to write accurately and clearly, in a literary register;
- ability to analyse and explore language;
- ability to use external contextual information to inform and enhance writing;
- ability to explore connections between texts;
- ability to reason and come to well-informed conclusions; and
- ability to think independently.

The essay has a **maximum** word limit of **2500 words**. The word limit does not include:

- task title
- quotations
- footnotes/endnotes (if used)
- bibliography

Is a bibliography required?

Yes. The bibliography should record both primary and secondary sources. E.g.:

Primary Texts

Salinger, J.D. *The Catcher in the Rye*. London: Penguin, 1945.

Filer, Nathan. *The Shock of the Fall*. London: Harper Collins, 2013.

Secondary Texts

Graham, Sarah. *Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye*. London, 2007.

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/fifties/essays/catcher-rye-voice-alienation>

What if a response significantly exceeds the word limit (more than 10%)?

The teacher should consider this when arriving at a final mark. Exceeding the word limit impacts on the candidate's ability to convey ideas with "order and relevance" (AO1).

What is the driving Assessment Objective for the comparative study?

The candidate's essay should address all five Assessment Objectives. A driving Assessment Objective has not been identified as the novel selection, theme selection and task title will dictate the approach adopted by the candidate.

How should teachers mark the response?

Teachers should assess the response using their professional judgement to apply the criteria in the mark bands appropriately and fairly to candidates' work. They should take a 'best fit'

approach to award the appropriate mark within a range, balancing strengths and weaknesses in each response. For example, if AO3 has been “identified” (Band 3) but has not informed the response which is otherwise “very good” (Band 5) then the ‘best fit’ approach would suggest that the final mark would range from upper-Band 4 to mid-Band 5.

The key words in each Band should be used to select the Band that reflects the achievement of the candidate. The degree to which the criteria has been met will then determine the final mark awarded.

Summative comments should be used to indicate how the mark has been awarded. Marginalia comments are also helpful in highlighting areas of achievement.