

Marking Criteria for Induction Task

The A Level Sociology Induction Task will be assessed by the following **criteria**:

Originality of ideas, and approach

Relevance of the answer to the question set

Accuracy of information

The appropriateness of the facts and ideas expressed

Use of primary and secondary data

Quality of analysis, argumentation and critical evaluation

Argumentation and understanding of topic-related and critical issues

Structure and organisation of argument

Quality of expression

Presentation (including referencing)

Outstanding 90%-100%

An outstanding answer showing an excellent overall understanding of the issues and methodologies; original, independent thinking informs an answer based upon rigorous argument accurately supported by evidence derived from a wide range of source material; sources thoroughly cited, presentation is clear and accurate. Very ambitious in scope. Could not be bettered at **A level** in the time available.

Excellent 80%-89%

Excellent answer in all or almost all areas with substantial evidence of original and independent thought. Exceptional for an A Level student. Ambitious in scope; well presented; sensitive to the complexity of the issues and material discussed. Confident handling of critical issues; sources thoroughly cited, presentation is clear and accurate.

Very Good 70%-79%

A very well focussed answer that shows evidence of independent thought, grasps complex ideas and arguments and brings these to bear in a structured argument. May at times lose some rigour of expression or organisation in communicating difficult ideas. In areas where excellence is not achieved, a high degree of competence is shown. Good degree of ability to engage with published scholarship and use it to support arguments. Sources thoroughly cited and presentation is good.

Good 60%-69%

Very competent answer in all or most areas, or showing moderate competence in some areas but excellence in others. Work that shows good knowledge and understanding of the material studied; is analytical, well structured and relevant; shows some evidence of independent thought. Sound grasp of critical issues; generally high standard of argument. At the lower end of the scale, there may be some shortcomings, but no major errors. Presentation generally competent; sources generally well documented.

Satisfactory 50%-59%

Answer reasonably competent in all or most areas, or uneven answer showing strength in some areas but weakness in others. Competent knowledge or understanding of the material studied, but characterised by one or more of the following: lack of critical analysis; lack of independent thought; argument not always well structured or relevant; some gaps in planning and use of evidence; lacks the comprehensiveness, accuracy and/or cohesiveness expected of a Good response. Evidence of reasonable understanding of the subject; some awareness of critical debates but may be too descriptive or generalised; would benefit from sharper focus and more reflection; sources adequately cited, presentation reasonable.

Basic 40%-49%

Weak answer in all or most areas, tending to be descriptive with uncritical coverage of debates and issues, but with some basic relevant information and understanding. Evidence of reading and attempt to address question or topic. Skills of planning, structuring and presentation relatively weak; barely adequate understanding of concepts, barely adequate use of reading and sources; some attempt to cite sources.

Weak 35%-39%

Answer showing minimal achievement in all areas, but containing some basic relevant information. Reliant on a minimal range of reading and poor attention to detail. May be repetitious, consisting of a string of weak statements/opinions which may not relate to each other. Assertions without supporting evidence; minimal reflection, poor planning and presentation; sources inadequately cited.

Very Weak (Fail) 20%-34%

Inadequate answer in all areas, displaying very little knowledge or understanding. Insufficient evidence that the candidate has adequately benefited from the task. Poorly organised and confused argument; little or no evidence of analysis, planning or presentation skills; poor use of English; sources not cited or very inadequately cited.

Inadequate (Fail) 0%-19%

Inadequate answer in which there is no evidence of understanding or knowledge of the material studied; inability to construct an argument; lack of planning or presentation skills; significant elements of irrelevance, error or plagiarism; sources not cited.