

Scholarship

2010 Assessment Report

Economics

COMMENTARY

The questions were topical and the range of material provided in the resource booklet provided candidates with sufficient stimulus material to use in their analysis. Most candidates understood the concepts involved and the intent of each part of the question - as well as the relevance of the scaffolding questions to the essay. The scaffolding questions encouraged candidates to focus their analysis and the essay questions enabled them to demonstrate scholarship skills, particularly that of evaluation.

Most candidates attempted all parts of each question; the minority who did not attempt the essay tended to complete most of the scaffolded questions. Some candidates copied and loosely linked large sections of the resource extracts without adequate reference to the material or author.

Good candidates used the planning box effectively, resulting in some very well constructed essays. Some novel planning tools were used including an introduction at the top, conclusion at the bottom, pros to the left and cons to the right. This planning tool was a simple visual method which helped create a relevant, balanced and well organised essay with evaluation.

SCHOLARSHIP WITH OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- demonstrated excellent reasoning that was logical and clearly expressed
- effectively integrated the resource material into their answers without repeating large sections of the material
- used the planning pages to carefully plan their answers and write in-depth responses to the essay questions
- effectively integrated their analysis from the scaffolded questions into their essays
- accurately incorporated economic graphs into their answers
- identified and objectively analysed a range of policy options and evaluated them
- produced justified, evaluative statements that effectively answered the essay questions.

SCHOLARSHIP

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship but not Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- demonstrated economic literacy
- appropriately referred to the resource material in their answers
- applied economic theory and models accurately and were able to draw accurate, correctly labelled graphs
- addressed the requirements of the question clearly in their answers
- provided an effective evaluation in their essays.

OTHER CANDIDATES

Candidates who were not awarded Scholarship or Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- used an insufficient amount of the resource material in their answers or misinterpreted the resource material
- copied sections of resource material without applying economic theory

- did not carry out a sufficient analysis
- were unable to use economic models appropriately, and mislabelled graphs
- wrote vague answers that lacked focus and did not address some of the question's requirements.