National
Qualifications
2024

2024 Modern Studies

Paper 2

Higher

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

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General marking principles for Higher Modern Studies Paper 2

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

(a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.

(b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.

(c) Marking must be consistent. Never make a hasty judgement on a response based on length, quality of handwriting or a confused start.

(d) Use the full range of marks available for each question.

(e) The detailed marking instructions are not an exhaustive list. Award marks for other relevant points.

Marking principles for each question type

For each of the question types the following provides an overview of marking principles.

The information handling questions used in this paper are
- to what extent is it accurate to state that . . . **10 marks**
- what conclusions can be drawn . . . **10 marks**
- to what extent are sources . . . reliable **8 marks**

Objectivity question (10 marks)
- Award up to **3 marks** for a single developed point depending on the use of the evidence in the sources and the quality of the analysis or evaluation.
- Award marks where candidates synthesise information both within and between sources.
- For **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.
- Candidates must also make an overall judgement as to the extent of the accuracy of the given statement. Award a **maximum of 8 marks** if no overall judgement is made on extent of accuracy of the statement.
- Award a maximum of 6 marks if a candidate only refers to one side of the argument in their answer.

Conclusions question (10 marks)
- Award up to **3 marks** for a single developed point depending on the use of the evidence in the sources and the quality of the analysis or evaluation.
- Award marks where candidates synthesise information both within and between sources.
- For **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.
- Candidates are required to make an overall conclusion about the issue in the question. Award a **maximum of 8 marks** if candidates do not provide an overall conclusion.

Reliability question (8 marks)
- Award up to **2 marks** for a single developed point depending on the use of the evidence in the sources and the quality of the analysis and/or evaluation.
- For **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.
- Candidates must also make a judgement based on the evidence on the most reliable source. Award a **maximum of 6 marks** if candidates do not provide an overall judgement.
- Award a **maximum of 3 marks** if only one factor is considered, for example, date, bias, sample size, provenance.

Higher Modern Studies marking grid for 10-mark source based (objectivity/conclusions) questions

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks	4 marks	5 marks	6 marks	7 marks	8 marks
Use of sources of evidence. Award up to **8 marks**.	Candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence from one source relating to one aspect of the issue.	Candidate links two distinct pieces of evidence relating to one aspect of the issue which may be from within a single source or between sources.	Candidate synthesises two distinct pieces of evidence relating to one aspect of the issue which may be from within a single source or between sources and gives an evaluative comment.	In addition, the candidate addresses a second aspect of the issue with reference to one relevant piece of evidence.	In addition, the candidate addresses a second aspect of the issue with reference to linked evidence.	In addition, the candidate addresses a second aspect of the issue is addressed with reference to synthesised evidence including an evaluative comment.	In addition, the candidate addresses a third aspect of the issue with reference to one relevant piece of evidence.	In addition, the candidate addresses a third aspect of the issue with reference to linked evidence. **OR** Synthesised evidence including an evaluative comment.
Objectivity Candidate presents an analysis of the accuracy/selectivity/ objectivity of a given view against the evidence. Award up to **2 marks**.	Candidate provides an objective assessment of a given view, based on evidence presented from the sources.	Candidate provides a detailed objective assessment of a given view, based on evidence presented from the sources.	**1** For **full marks** candidates **must** refer to all sources in their answer. Award **a maximum of 6 marks** if all sources are not used. **2** **Objectivity questions**. • Award up to **8 marks** for an accurate evaluation of the given view using evidence. • Award up to **2 marks** for an overall judgement as to the extent of accuracy and/or objectivity of the view. **3** **Conclusions questions**. For **full marks** candidates **must** make evaluative comments or judgement(s) or draw a conclusion about each of the points given in the question. Award **a further 2 marks** for an overall conclusion.					

Higher Modern Studies marking grid for 10-mark source based (objectivity/conclusions) questions

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks	4 marks	5 marks	6 marks	7 marks	8 marks
Conclusion Candidate presents an overall evaluative comment(s) derived from a judgement of the evidence. Award up to **2 marks**.	Candidate presents an overall conclusion that is clear and supported by evidence from the sources.	Candidate presents an overall conclusion that is insightful and supported by detailed evidence from the sources.						

Higher Modern Studies marking grid for 8-mark source based (reliability) question

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks	4 marks	5 marks	6 marks
Use of sources of evidence. Award up to **6 marks**.	Candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of one source.	Candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain in detail the reliability of one source. **OR** Candidate uses two distinct pieces of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of one source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a second source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain in detail the reliability of a second source. **OR** Candidate uses two distinct pieces of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a second source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a third source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain in detail the reliability of a third source. **OR** Candidate uses two distinct pieces of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a third source.
Reliability Candidate presents an overall evaluative comment(s) on which source is the most reliable, derived from a judgement of the evidence. Award up to **2 marks**.	Candidate presents an overall conclusion on the most reliable source, that is clear and supported by evidence from the sources.	Candidate presents an overall conclusion on the most reliable source, that is insightful and supported by detailed evidence from all the sources.	**1** For **full marks** candidates **must** refer to all sources in their answer. Award a maximum of **5 marks** if all sources are not used. Award **a maximum of 3 marks** if only one factor is considered, for example, date, bias, sample size, provenance. **2** Award up to **6 marks** for an accurate evaluation of source reliability. Award **a further 2 marks** for an overall judgement on the most reliable source.			

Marking instructions for each question

Conclusions question

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
1.			Candidates interpret and/or evaluate complex sources in order to reach conclusions. In order to gain marks candidates must show evidence which explains the conclusions reached. • award up to **3 marks** where candidates use evidence appropriately, depending on the quality of the explanation and the synthesis of the evidence to reach any one conclusion • for **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer • for **full marks** candidates must reach conclusions about each of the points given and make an overall conclusion on the issue.	**10**	Candidates can gain marks in a number of ways up to **a maximum of 10 marks.** **Possible approaches to answering the question** **The link between gender and prison population in Scotland** **Response 1** One conclusion I can make is that there are significant gender differences in the prison population between men and women**.** **Total – 0 marks (conclusion without supporting evidence)** **Response 2** One conclusion I can make is that there are significant gender differences in the prison population between men and women. Evidence for this can be found in Source A which states that Scotland's female prisoners make up only 4% of the prison population. **Total – 1 mark (conclusion with supporting evidence from Source A)** **Response 3** Source A says that in all prison regimes one gender is much more likely to be in prison. Evidence for this can be found in Source A which states that Scotland's female prisoners make up only 4% of the prison population. I can conclude that there are significant gender differences in the prison population between men and women. **Total — 2 marks (conclusion with supporting evidence from one source)**

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
					Response 4 One conclusion I can make is that there are significant gender differences in the prison population between men and women. Evidence for this can be found in Source A which shows that Scotland's female prisoners make up only 4% of the prison population. This is backed up by evidence from Source C which says that males under the age of 40 make up most of the prison population. Therefore, it is clear that the vast majority of prisoners in Scotland are men. **Total — 3 marks (conclusion with synthesis of evidence and evaluative comment)** **The link between gender and reconviction rates in Scotland** **Response 5** One conclusion that can be made is that men are much more likely to be reconvicted than women. **Total — 0 Marks (conclusion without supporting evidence)** **Response 6** One conclusion that can be made is that men are much more likely to be reconvicted than women. Evidence for this can be found in Source A which states that around 30% of men are reconvicted compared to under a quarter of women (Source C). **Total — 2 marks (conclusion with supporting evidence from two sources)** **Response 7** One conclusion that can be made is that men are much more likely to be reconvicted than women. Evidence for this can be found in Source A which states that around 30% of men are reconvicted compared to under a quarter of women (Source C). Therefore, men are around 20% more likely to be reconvicted compared to women. **Total — 3 marks — (conclusion with synthesis of evidence and evaluative comment)**

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
					The link between alcohol and crime in Scotland **Response 8** Alcohol can be a significant factor in causing crime. Evidence for this can be found in Source A when it states that "Around 60% of young offenders were drunk at the time of their offence." **Total — 1 mark (conclusion with supporting evidence from Source A)** **Response 9** Alcohol can be a significant factor in causing crime. Source C says that of the people accused of murder in 2022, over half were reported to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol or both. This is backed up by Source A which states that 44% of violent crime in Scotland was alcohol related, which although not a majority, is a very significant minority. **Total — 3 marks (conclusion with synthesis of evidence and evaluative comment)** **Possible overall conclusions about which country's prisons are most like Scotland** **Response 10** The country whose prisons are most like Scotland is North Macedonia. **Total — 0 marks (overall conclusion not supported by evidence)** **Response 11** The country whose prisons are most like Scotland is North Macedonia due to them having the closest number of prisons to Scotland. **Total — 1 mark (overall conclusion supported by evidence)**

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
					Response 12 The country whose prisons are most like Scotland is North Macedonia. It has 13 prisons and Scotland has 15 prisons which is the closest of all the countries listed. **Total — 2 marks (correct conclusion supported by detailed evidence)** *Any other valid point that meets the criteria described in the general marking principles for this type of question.* **Do not award marks for a valid conclusion which is not supported with relevant source evidence.**

Objectivity question

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
2.			Candidates interpret and/or evaluate complex sources of information, detecting and explaining the extent of objectivity. In order to gain marks candidates must show evidence which supports the extent of accuracy in a given viewpoint. • award up to **3 marks** where candidates use evidence appropriately, depending on the quality of the explanation and the synthesis of the evidence, for any one explanation of the extent of objectivity • for **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer • award **a maximum of 6 marks** if a candidate only refers to one side of the argument in their answer • award **a maximum of 8 marks** if no overall judgement is made on extent of accuracy of the statement.		Candidates can gain marks in a number of ways up to **a maximum of 10 marks.** **Evidence that supports the view — 'poorer countries were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.'** **Examples of types of evidence that support the view include:** • poorer countries have often struggled to afford vaccines or don't have the healthcare system to administer them quickly (Source A) • poorer countries had the biggest falls in GDP per capita (Source B) • poorer countries had lower vaccination figures then richer countries (Source C) • poorer countries had higher death rates (Source C). **Possible approaches to answering the question** **Response 1** Poorer countries often struggled to afford vaccines which meant that they were most affected by COVID-19 (Source A). **Total — 1 mark (evidence used from one source)** **Response 2** Poorer countries often struggled to afford vaccines which meant that they were most affected by COVID-19 (Source A). Source C shows that the lowest of all countries is Burundi at only 8% vaccinated. This is around 10% of the lowest figure from the richer countries (USA 81%). **Total — 3 marks (relevant evidence from two sources with evaluative comment)**

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
					Evidence that opposes the view - 'poorer countries were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.' **Examples of types of evidence that opposes the view include:** • taxpayers in richer countries will be subject to higher taxes for years (Source A) • COVID-19's impact on people in richer countries will be felt for years to come and has created massive financial problems (Source A) • richer countries had the biggest increases in unemployment (Source B) • the total number of COVID-19 cases as a % of the population are highest in the richest countries (Source C). **Possible approaches to answering the question** **Response 3** Richer countries were more affected by COVID-19 as they had the biggest increases in unemployment (Source A). **Total — 1 mark (evidence from one source)** **Response 4** Richer countries were more affected by COVID-19 as they had the biggest increases in unemployment. (Source A) This links to Source B which shows that the three biggest increases in unemployment, at 1.8% each, were in richer countries. **Total — 2 marks (linked evidence from two sources)** **Response 5** Richer countries were more affected by COVID-19 as they had the biggest increases in unemployment. (Source A) This links to Source B which shows that the three biggest increases in unemployment, at 1.8% each, were in richer countries. The UK, USA and Sweden for example had twice the rise in unemployment as Pakistan and nine times the rise of Burundi. **Total — 3 marks (synthesised evidence from two sources with an evaluative comment)**

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
					For **full marks**, candidates **must** make an overall judgment **as to the extent** of the accuracy of the given statement. **Examples of possible overall judgements:** • overall, poorer countries were affected more by COVID-19. The statement is largely true **(0 marks)** • to a certain extent, poorer countries were affected more by COVID-19 as they had the three biggest falls in GDP per capita **(1 mark)** • the statement is largely inaccurate as the richest countries had by far the highest number of cases as a % of the population **(1 mark)** • overall, poorer countries were affected more by COVID-19. Their vaccination levels are very low and overall, their GDP per capita fell by larger margins making the statement largely true. **(2 marks)**

Reliability question

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
3.			Candidates interpret and/or **three** complex sources of information, evaluating and explaining the extent or reliability. In order to gain marks candidates must show evidence which supports the evaluations reached. • award up to **2 marks** where candidates use evidence appropriately, depending on the quality of the explanation and the synthesis of the evidence, for any one explanation of the extent of reliability • for **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer • for **full marks** candidates must make an overall conclusion on the most reliable source of information • award **a maximum of 3 marks** if only one factor is considered, for example, date, sample size, bias, provenance.	**8**	Candidates can gain marks in a number of ways up to **a maximum of 8 marks**. **Source A** **Response 1** Source A is reliable as the survey has a sample size of 1,059 which is representative. **Total — 1 mark (evidence and explanation provided)** **Response 2** Source A is reliable due to it being produced by Ipsos who are a reputable, well-known polling and research company, which enhances reliability. The survey would have been conducted in a professional and thorough way ensuring the reliability of the results as their business depends on their reputation. **Total — 2 marks (detailed evidence and explanation provided)** **Source B** **Response 3** Source B has been created by TEDx which is a website. **Total — 0 marks (no explanation provided)** **Response 4** Source B is very trustworthy as it is a video from Sir Harry Burns who is the former Chief Medical Officer for Scotland and so would be an expert when discussing wellness. However, despite his expertise the video is presenting outdated information as it is 10 years old. **Total — 2 marks (detailed evidence and explanation provided)** **Source C** **Response 5** Although Source C seems quite up to date, it refers to the Prime Minister being Liz Truss which reduces the reliability of the source. **Total — 1 mark (evidence and explanation provided)**

Question			General marking instructions for this type of question	Max mark	Detailed marking instructions for this question
					Response 6 Source C is unreliable as it has been adapted but we do not know if this was done in order to mislead. **Total — 1 mark (evidence and explanation provided)** **Response 7** Source C is reliable as news organisations like The Guardian have to ensure they are publishing accurate and factual information, or they could face legal action from individuals. However, news sites are often biased in their reporting with the Guardian being well-known for its left-wing views and reporting. **Total — 2 marks (detailed evidence and explanation provided)** **Examples of an overall conclusion on the most reliable source of information** **Response 8** Source A is the most reliable as the survey has been produced by a company who adhere to professional research practices. **Total — 1 mark (overall conclusion supported by evidence from one source)** **Response 9** Source B is more reliable than Source C as it gives unbiased information from a health expert unlike Source C which doesn't tell us who the author is. **Total — 1 mark (overall conclusion supported by evidence from two sources)** **Response 10** Overall, Source A is the most reliable. Source A is more reliable than Source B because it is much more up to date having been produced in 2020 compared to 2014. Source A is also more reliable than Source C because Source C may be biased against the UK Government whereas Source A is an impartial survey. **Total — 2 marks (overall conclusion supported by evidence from all sources)** For **full marks**, candidates **must** make an overall judgement on the most reliable source comparing all three sources.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]