

Extended essay: Example commentary			
Subject	Environmental systems and societies	WSEE theme (if applicable):	
Category for language essays (if applicable):		Subjects used for WSEE (if applicable):	
Title of essay:	The economic impact of the 1995 reintroduction of grey wolves to Yellowstone National Park		
Research question:	To what extent has the 1995 reintroduction of grey wolves ( <i>Canis lupus</i> ) in Yellowstone National Park affected ecotourism in the Greater Yellowstone area?		
Assessment details			
Criterion	Mark awarded	Commentary	
A: Focus and method  [Maximum possible mark: 6]	6	The topic and the research question are very clearly communicated and appropriate. Focus is maintained throughout the essay. Selection of sources and data is totally appropriate and demonstrates some creativity.	
B: Knowledge and understanding  [Maximum possible mark: 6]	6	Sources have been used effectively throughout with a profound grasp of relevant concepts and subject-specific terminology.	
C: Critical thinking  [Maximum possible mark: 12]	10	The research approach is sound and even creative (markband 10–12); analysis is valid and directly appropriate to the research question, but just occasionally imprecise (markband 7–9); the argument is well structured and thorough (markband 10–12); there is sufficient evaluation of sources and research (markband 10–12).	

D: Presentation  [Maximum possible mark: 4]	3	Formal requirements and structure are excellent, although the layout of the citations could be better.
E: Engagement  [Maximum possible mark: 6]	5	The student has shown clear, evaluative recognition of personal skill development, and has responded critically to emerging revelations in the research process.
Total marks awarded	30/34	