

Extended essay: Example commentary
Subject: World studies
WSEE theme (if applicable): Conflict, peace and security
Category for language essays (if applicable): Subjects used for WSEE (if applicable): Geography

History
Title of essay: A historical and geographical approach to the impact of the Colombian reintegration process on demobilized persons
Research question: How is the quality of life of demobilized persons in the department of Bolivar, Columbia impacted by the Colombian Agency for Reintegration's (ACR) program?
Assessment details
Criterion: Mark awarded
Commentary

A: Focus and method

[Maximum possible mark: 6]

4 While clearly an issue of contemporary global significance, little is done to set the question in this context. Rather, the student focuses the question on a local issue while using local research methods to provide evidence for her claims. The topic is communicated clearly, and the research method is clearly stated and focused. The methodology is generally relevant and original, and there is evidence that the selection was informed. The essay is interdisciplinary in nature, but the student has not explained why such an approach is necessary.

B: Knowledge and understanding

[Maximum possible mark: 6]

4 While knowledge and understanding of the topic is demonstrated, there is a reliance on one methodology, which the student acknowledges is limiting. While history is nominated as one of the subjects, there is little use of historical terminology, making it challenging to show knowledge and understanding.

C: Critical thinking

[Maximum possible mark: 12]

9 A reasoned argument is developed from the research, and the analysis is generally good. While the argument is generally structured, there are minor inconsistencies that hinder its strength.

D: Presentation

[Maximum possible mark: 4]

3 Presentation is good. The structure and layout of the essay is appropriate and follows the expected format for academic writing.

E: Engagement

[Maximum possible mark: 6]

5 There is clearly a high level of intellectual engagement as the student's reflections show significant initiative in their choice of topic and research. However, there is little discussion of why the methodology was chosen or why changes were made in the research process.
Total marks awarded: 25/34