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EE/RPPF

For first assessment in 2018

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International Baccalaureate
Baccalauréat International
Bachillerato Internacional

Candidate personal code:

Extended essay - Reflections on planning and progress form

Candidate: This form is to be completed by the candidate during the course and completion of their EE. This document records reflections on your planning and progress, and the nature of your discussions with your supervisor. You must undertake three formal reflection sessions with your supervisor: The first formal reflection session should focus on your initial ideas and how you plan to undertake your research; the interim reflection session is once a significant amount of your research has been completed, and the final session will be in the form of a viva voce once you have completed and handed in your EE. This document acts as a record in supporting the authenticity of your work. The three reflections combined must amount to no more than 500 words.

The completion of this form is a mandatory requirement of the EE for first assessment May 2018. It must be submitted together with the completed EE for assessment under Criterion E.

Supervisor: You must have three reflection sessions with each candidate, one early on in the process, an interim meeting and then the final viva voce. Other check-in sessions are permitted but do not need to be recorded on this sheet. After each reflection session candidates must record their reflections and as the supervisor you must sign and date this form.

First reflection session

Candidate comments:

So far, I have undertaken preliminary research on my intended focus area - the effect of imperialist rule on legal systems in colonial states - and have thought about possible titles. Despite the research I have undertaken on the internet, I have found it difficult to narrow my focus towards a specific topic. A key challenge is the lack in any key events, which unfortunately means I have to analyse the effect of Imperialist rule on an abstract concepts, such as the 'rule of law.' In a research paper I have read, the author had to reduce the effect to a 'freedom index' - which I would not find ideal subject matter for my EE. Thus, I have considered shifting my focus to the link between colonialism and post-colonial states like my own, Malaysia.

Date:

Supervisor initials:



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**Interim reflection**

Candidate comments:

Since my initial reflection, I have decided on the topic of the effect of British colonial policy on ethnic conflict in Nigeria. This topic has been little researched, and I unfortunately have very little access to quality books on Nigerian history. For research, I have been reading online journal articles and the few books I have that outline Nigeria's colonial and post-colonial history. Also, I'm researching British colonial policy more broadly, as investigating its effects in other countries would allow me to draw parallels with Nigeria. Despite the availability of some primary and secondary resources, I am finding it difficult to find accounts by everyday Nigerians in the early 20th century. Instead, I can only find sources penned by the Nigerian elite. I am worried that this lack in evidence may result in incomplete analysis, such as a view on the tensions between different ethnic groups more alike to the view of the literate elite instead of that of the everyday Nigerian. Thus, I am keenly aware that I have to evaluate the value and limitations of every source, primary and secondary, to my investigation.

Date:

Supervisor initials:

Final reflection - Viva voce

Candidate comments:

Writing an Extended Essay has been difficult, but I am glad to have been involved with this process. Most difficult, I think, was the initial research in finding a topic, because getting involved with dense historical subject matter to craft an EE title was challenging when I knew very little about any topic. Despite this, I was able to read around a very broad subject – colonialism – in order to fashion a title that was related to my interests, ethnic conflict. After finding a title, the work got progressively easier. However, a key challenge I faced was finding primary sources, as my field has not been deeply studied. I had to search the bibliographies of secondary sources in order to find the relevant primary ones to inform my research. While this was a key methodological flaw with my research, I still felt my work was relatively accurate and reliable. Even if it wasn't, I felt that grappling for primary sources has been rewarding, because I have gained valuable experience into research, a skill which I hope will be useful in the future.

Date:

Supervisor initials:

Supervisor comments:

This candidate proved to be an outstanding independent learner at every stage of the process. Having identified a topic that was under-researched and with primary sources that would be difficult to access, the candidate explored every avenue available in order to assimilate an impressive number of primary sources as well as secondary material. This process was not always easy but the candidate was resilient and determined and has learnt deeply valuable lessons as a result.

The candidate also learnt how to formulate appropriate and useful questions in order to guide the research process. It was a pleasure to explore some of these questions together, but even more to see the candidate resolving difficulties and finding the answers without guidance. The final essay is testament to this candidate's tenacity and intellectual ability and is something to be very proud of.

