

Individuals and societies assessment criteria

Criterion A: Knowing and understanding

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 10, students should be able to:

- i. use a wide range of terminology in context
- ii. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of subject-specific content and concepts through developed descriptions, explanations and examples.

Achievement level	Level descriptor
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.
1–2	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. uses limited relevant terminologyii. demonstrates basic knowledge and understanding of content and concepts with minimal descriptions and/or examples.
3–4	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. uses some terminology accurately and appropriatelyii. demonstrates adequate knowledge and understanding of content and concepts through satisfactory descriptions, explanations and examples.
5–6	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. uses a range of terminology accurately and appropriatelyii. demonstrates substantial knowledge and understanding of content and concepts through accurate descriptions, explanations and examples.
7–8	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. consistently uses a wide range of terminology effectivelyii. demonstrates excellent knowledge and understanding of content and concepts through thorough, accurate descriptions, explanations and examples.

Criterion B: Investigating

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 10, students should be able to:

- i. formulate a clear and focused research question and justify its relevance
- ii. formulate and follow an action plan to investigate a research question
- iii. use research methods to collect and record appropriate, varied and relevant information
- iv. evaluate the process and results of the investigation.

Achievement level	Level descriptor
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.
1–2	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. formulates a research question that is clear or focused and describes its relevance ii. formulates a limited action plan to investigate a research question or does not follow a plan iii. collects and records limited information, not always consistent with the research question iv. makes a limited evaluation of the process and results of the investigation.
3–4	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. formulates a research question that is clear and focused and describes its relevance in detail ii. formulates and somewhat follows a partial action plan to investigate a research question iii. uses a research method(s) to collect and record mostly relevant information iv. evaluates some aspects of the process and results of the investigation.
5–6	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. formulates a clear and focused research question and explains its relevance ii. formulates and follows a substantial action plan to investigate a research question iii. uses research method(s) to collect and record appropriate, relevant information iv. evaluates the process and results of the investigation.
7–8	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. formulates a clear and focused research question and justifies its relevance ii. formulates and effectively follows a comprehensive action plan to investigate a research question iii. uses research methods to collect and record appropriate, varied and relevant information iv. thoroughly evaluates the investigation process and results.

Criterion C: Communicating

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 10, students should be able to:

- i. communicate information and ideas effectively using an appropriate style for the audience and purpose
- ii. structure information and ideas in a way that is appropriate to the specified format
- iii. document sources of information using a recognized convention.

Achievement level	Level descriptor
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.
1–2	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. communicates information and ideas in a limited way, using a style that is limited in its appropriateness to the audience and purpose ii. structures information and ideas according to the specified format in a limited way iii. documents sources of information in a limited way.
3–4	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. communicates information and ideas satisfactorily by using a style that is somewhat appropriate to the audience and purpose ii. structures information and ideas in a way that is somewhat appropriate to the specified format iii. sometimes documents sources of information using a recognized convention.
5–6	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. communicates information and ideas accurately by using a style that is mostly appropriate to the audience and purpose ii. structures information and ideas in a way that is mostly appropriate to the specified format iii. often documents sources of information using a recognized convention.
7–8	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. communicates information and ideas effectively and accurately by using a style that is completely appropriate to the audience and purpose ii. structures information and ideas in a way that is completely appropriate to the specified format iii. consistently documents sources of information using a recognized convention.

Criterion D: Thinking critically

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 10, students should be able to:

- i. discuss concepts, issues, models, visual representation and theories
- ii. synthesize information to make valid, well-supported arguments
- iii. analyse and evaluate a range of sources/data in terms of origin and purpose, examining value and limitations
- iv. interpret different perspectives and their implications.

Achievement level	Level descriptor
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.
1–2	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. analyses concepts, issues, models, visual representation and theories to a limited extent ii. summarizes information to a limited extent to make arguments iii. describes a limited number of sources/data in terms of origin and purpose and recognizes nominal value and limitations iv. identifies different perspectives and minimal implications.
3–4	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. analyses concepts, issues, models, visual representation and theories ii. summarizes information to make arguments iii. analyses and/or evaluates sources/data in terms of origin and purpose, recognizing some value and limitations iv. interprets different perspectives and some of their implications.
5–6	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. discusses concepts, issues, models, visual representation and theories ii. synthesizes information to make valid arguments iii. effectively analyses and evaluates a range of sources/data in terms of origin and purpose, usually recognizing value and limitations iv. interprets different perspectives and their implications.
7–8	The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. completes a detailed discussion of concepts, issues, models, visual representation and theories ii. synthesizes information to make valid, well-supported arguments iii. effectively analyses and evaluates a range of sources/data in terms of origin and purpose, consistently recognizing value and limitations iv. thoroughly interprets a range of different perspectives and their implications.