

# Assessment Descriptors – Table B

80-100%			
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Masters degree)
<b>Exceptional</b> knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts	<b>Exceptional</b> knowledge of established principles / concepts / methods of enquiry of subject and their limitations; evidence of extensive reading	<b>Exceptional systematic</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; evidence of very extensive reading	<b>Exceptional systematic</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; evidence of very extensive, if not exhaustive reading
<b>Very high degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Very high degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Exceptional technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Exceptional technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments
<b>Very high degree of competence</b> in evaluating and/or interpreting data and different approaches/ problem solving	<b>Very high degree of competence</b> in applying concepts / principles / methods of enquiry outside	<b>Very high degree of competence</b> in solving problems / evaluating and making judgements and appreciating limits of	<b>Exceptional degree of competence</b> in solving problems / evaluating and making judgements and appreciating limits of

	the area in which they were studied	knowledge; clear evidence of independent thought	knowledge; clear evidence of independent thought and a willingness to challenge received wisdom
<b>Very high degree of competence in</b> communicating accurately and reliably, contextualising knowledge and structuring arguments	<b>Very high degree of competence in</b> communicating accurately and reliably, contextualising knowledge and structuring/sustaining arguments	<b>Very high degree of competence in</b> communicating information, ideas problems and solutions, contextualising knowledge and structuring/sustaining arguments	<b>Exceptional degree of competence in</b> communicating information, ideas problems and solutions, contextualising knowledge and structuring/sustaining arguments
<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, sophisticated and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, sophisticated and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, fluent, highly sophisticated and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, highly fluent, focused and sophisticated, and in an appropriate format
<b>Citation and referencing</b> is consistent and uses an appropriate style	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style. The work may be of publishable quality

70-79%			
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Masters degree)
<b>Comprehensive</b> knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts	<b>Comprehensive</b> knowledge of established principles / concepts / methods of enquiry of subject and their limitations; clear evidence of wide reading	<b>Comprehensive</b> systematic knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; evidence of extensive reading	<b>Comprehensive</b> systematic knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; evidence of very extensive reading
<b>High degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>High degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Very high degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Very high degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instrument
<b>High degree of competence</b> in evaluating and/or interpreting data and different approaches/ problem solving.	<b>High degree of competence</b> in applying concepts / principles / methods of enquiry outside the area in which they were studied.	<b>High degree of competence</b> in solving problems / evaluating and making judgements and appreciating limits of knowledge; clear	<b>High degree of competence</b> in solving problems / evaluating and making judgements and appreciating limits of knowledge; clear

		evidence of independent thought.	evidence of independent thought.
<b>High degree of competence</b> in communicating accurately, reliably, and structuring arguments	<b>High degree of competence</b> in communicating accurately and reliably, contextualising knowledge and structuring arguments	<b>High degree of competence</b> in communicating accurately and reliably, contextualising knowledge and structuring/sustaining arguments	<b>High degree of competence</b> in communicating information, ideas problems and solutions, contextualising knowledge and structuring/sustaining arguments
<b>Presentation</b> is highly competent and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, sophisticated and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, sophisticated and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, fluent, highly sophisticated and in an appropriate format
<b>Citation and referencing</b> is consistent and uses an appropriate style	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style

60-69%			
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Masters degree)
<b>Good</b> knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts	<b>Good</b> knowledge of established principles / concepts / methods of enquiry of subject and their limitations; reasonable evidence of wider reading	<b>Good systematic</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and competent conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; clear evidence of wide reading	<b>Good systematic</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; evidence of extensive reading
<b>Good technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Good technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>High degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>High degree of technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments
<b>Good</b> at evaluating and/or interpreting data and different approaches/ problem solving	<b>Good</b> at applying concepts / principles / methods of enquiry outside the area in which they were studied	<b>Good</b> at solving problems / evaluating and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge	<b>Good</b> at solving problems / evaluating and making judgements and appreciating limits of knowledge; some evidence of independent thought

<b>Good</b> at communicating accurately, reliably and in structuring arguments	<b>Good</b> at communicating accurately, reliably, and structuring arguments	<b>Good</b> at communicating accurately and reliably, contextualising knowledge and structuring arguments	<b>Good</b> at communicating accurately and reliably, contextualising knowledge and structuring/sustaining arguments
<b>Presentation</b> is competent and in generally in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is highly competent and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, sophisticated and in an appropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, sophisticated and in an appropriate format
<b>Citation and referencing</b> is consistent and uses an appropriate style, with few errors	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style, with few errors	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style

50-59%			
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Masters degree)
<b>Competent</b> knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts	<b>Competent</b> knowledge of established principles / concepts / methods of enquiry of subject and their limitations; limited evidence of wider reading	<b>Competent systematic</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; reasonable evidence of wider reading	<b>Competent systematic</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; clear evidence of wider reading
<b>Sound technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Sound technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Good technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Good technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments
<b>Competent ability</b> to evaluate and/or interpret data and different approaches/ problem solving	<b>Competent ability</b> to apply concepts / principles / methods of enquiry outside the area in which they were studied	<b>Competent ability</b> to solve problems / evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge	<b>Competent ability</b> to solve problems / evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge

<p><b>Competent ability to</b> communicate and structure arguments, knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts; reliance upon description as a substitute for analysis</p>	<p><b>Competent ability to</b> communicate and structure arguments, knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts; reliance upon description as a substitute for analysis</p>	<p><b>Competent ability to</b> communicate and structure/sustain arguments, knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts; reliance upon description as a substitute for analysis</p>	<p><b>Good</b> at communicating accurately and reliably, contextualising knowledge and structuring/sustaining arguments</p>
<p><b>Presentation</b> is competent and in generally in an appropriate format</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is competent and in generally in an appropriate format</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is highly competent and in an appropriate format</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is crisp, uncluttered, sophisticated and in an appropriate format</p>
<p><b>Citation and referencing</b> is generally consistent and uses an appropriate style, with some errors</p>	<p><b>Citation and referencing</b> is generally accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style, with some errors</p>	<p><b>Citation and referencing</b> is generally accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style, with few errors</p>	<p><b>Citation and referencing</b> is generally accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style, with few errors</p>



40-49%			
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Masters degree)
<b>Acceptable</b> knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts	<b>Acceptable</b> knowledge of established principles / concepts / methods of enquiry of subject and their limitations	<b>Acceptable</b> conceptual knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; limited evidence of wider reading	<b>See below</b>
<b>Acceptable technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Acceptable technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Sound technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	
<b>Acceptable ability</b> to evaluate and/or interpret different approaches/ problem solving; heavy reliance upon description as a substitute for analysis	<b>Acceptable ability</b> to apply concepts / principles / methods of enquiry outside the area in which they were studied	<b>Acceptable ability</b> to solve problems / evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge	

<p><b>Acceptable ability to communicate accurately, reliably, and structure arguments</b></p>	<p><b>Acceptable ability to communicate and structure arguments, knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts</b></p>	<p><b>Acceptable ability to communicate information, ideas problems and solutions and structure/sustain arguments</b></p>	
<p><b>Presentation</b> is satisfactory and in generally in an appropriate format, although deficiencies are apparent</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is satisfactory and in generally in an appropriate format, although deficiencies are apparent</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is competent and in generally in an appropriate format</p>	
<p><b>Citation and referencing</b> shows some consistency but many deficiencies are apparent</p>	<p><b>Citation and referencing</b> shows some consistency and accuracy but many deficiencies are apparent</p>	<p><b>Citation and referencing</b> is generally accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style, with some errors</p>	

25 <sup>1</sup> -39%				35 <sup>1</sup> -49%
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Integrated Masters)	Level 7 (Masters)
<b>Some</b> knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts	<b>Some</b> knowledge of established principles / concepts / methods of enquiry of subject and their limitations	<b>Some</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline	<b>Acceptable systematic</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; reasonable evidence of wider reading	<b>Some</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline; limited evidence of wider reading or systematic approach to knowledge acquisition
<b>Some technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Some technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Sound technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Sound technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Some technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments for standard tasks

<sup>1</sup> Relates to the standard university Qualifying Mark and individual programmes may have a Qualifying Mark boundary which is higher

<p><b>Some ability</b> to evaluate and/or interpret different approaches/ problem solving</p>	<p><b>Some ability</b> to apply concepts /principles/methods of enquiry outside the area in which they were studied</p>	<p><b>Some ability</b> to solve problems /evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge</p>	<p><b>Acceptable ability</b> to solve problems / evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge</p>	<p><b>Some ability</b> to solve problems / evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge</p>
<p><b>Some ability</b> to communicate accurately, reliably, and structure arguments</p>	<p><b>Some ability</b> to communicate accurately, reliably, and structure arguments</p>	<p><b>Some ability</b> to communicate information, ideas problems and solutions and structure/sustain arguments</p>	<p><b>Acceptable ability</b> to communicate information, ideas problems and solutions and structure/sustain arguments</p>	<p><b>Some ability</b> to communicate information, ideas problems and solutions and structure/sustain arguments</p>
<p><b>Presentation</b> is poor and may be in an inappropriate format</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is acceptable, although deficiencies are apparent, but may be in an inappropriate format</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is satisfactory and in generally in an appropriate format, but there may be some errors</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is competent and in generally in an appropriate format</p>	<p><b>Presentation</b> is satisfactory and in generally in an appropriate format, but there may be some errors</p>

<b>Citation and referencing</b> is present, but may be inconsistent and use an inappropriate format	<b>Citation and referencing</b> shows some consistency but many deficiencies are apparent	<b>Citation and referencing</b> shows some consistency and accuracy but many deficiencies are apparent	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is generally accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style, with some errors	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is generally accurate, consistent and uses an appropriate style, with some errors
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0-24%			0-34%
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Masters degree)
<b>Very little</b> knowledge of subject and its underlying concepts	<b>Very little</b> knowledge of established principles / concepts / methods of enquiry of subject and their limitations	<b>Very little</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and very little conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline	<b>Very little</b> knowledge of key aspects of area of study and little conceptual understanding of ideas and techniques of discipline
<b>Very little technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Very little technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Some technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments	<b>Some technical and practical competence</b> in using software or equipment/instruments

0-24%		0-34%	
Level 4 (Certificate of HE)	Level 5 (Diploma of HE)	Level 6 (Honours degree)	Level 7 (Masters degree)
<b>Inadequate ability</b> to evaluate and/or interpret different approaches/ problem solving	<b>Inadequate ability</b> to apply concepts / principles / methods of enquiry outside the area in which they were studied	<b>Inadequate ability</b> solve problems / evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge	<b>Inadequate ability</b> to solve problems / evaluate and make judgements and appreciate limits of knowledge
<b>Inadequate ability</b> to communicate accurately, reliably, and structure arguments	<b>Inadequate ability</b> to communicate accurately, reliably, and structure arguments	<b>Inadequate ability</b> to communicate information, ideas problems and solutions and structure/sustain arguments	<b>Inadequate ability</b> to communicate information, ideas problems and solutions and structure/sustain arguments
<b>Presentation</b> is very poor and in an inappropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is very poor and in an inappropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is poor and in an inappropriate format	<b>Presentation</b> is poor and in an inappropriate format
<b>Citation and referencing</b> is very poor or absent	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is very poor or absent	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is poor or absent	<b>Citation and referencing</b> is poor or absent