

Here, markers should expect better answers both to compare the overall views in the sources and to refer to specific points of agreement or disagreement between them, as in this example from the same script as in Example 7 above:

Sources A and B are in complete contrast on British attitudes about German reoccupation [of the Rhineland]. Source A favours standing up to Hitler and preventing his actions, though it recognises why the British are in favour of the reoccupation. Source B is full of descriptions why the British are in the policy of appeasement ...

Source A acknowledges that the “average Englishman” thought Hitler’s actions and motives were acceptable, but it was the opinion of “the ignorant”. On the other hand, Source B says the British gave Germany a “degree of sympathetic understanding”.

This answer could have been improved had the candidate explained the points of disagreement rather than merely quoting them, but it does show a clear understanding of the differences between them. It avoids the frequent flaw in these answers, which is for candidates simply to list points from each source and then, in a concluding sentence, say ‘therefore’ the sources agree/disagree.