

Commentary on candidate 1 evidence

The evidence for this candidate has achieved the following marks for each question of this course assessment component.

Question 1

Section 1 - Philosophy of Religion

“Aquinas’s cosmological arguments prove the existence of a first cause and not the existence of God”. Discuss. (30 marks)

The candidate was awarded **16 marks** because although the essay is focussed on the question at times, it drifts into general comments about the topic. **6 marks** were awarded for knowledge and understanding as there is evidence that the candidate has drawn together relevant information but references to sources tend to be more limited. The candidate has a first rate understanding of the cosmological argument however; there is insufficient depth and explanation of the issues (**5 marks**). The evaluation is valid but not consistent and lacking in depth. There has been some attempt to draw conclusions but they also lack depth (**5 marks**).

Question 6

Section 2 - Medical Ethics

To what extent is euthanasia morally unacceptable? (30 marks)

The candidate was awarded **15 marks** because the candidate has a good understanding of the positions that can be adopted and of the nature of the debate, however there is little depth or evaluation. The essay is focussed more on the topic than the question. Knowledge and understanding has inconsistent depth but is mainly accurate and relevant. There is some evidence that the candidate has drawn together relevant information on euthanasia but references to sources tend to be more limited (**6 marks**). The analysis identifies a mix of specific and general issues related to the question but lacks depth and explanation. There is evidence of some understanding of the relevance to the question but in general terms (**5 marks**). Evaluation is valid but not clearly reasoned. Relevant judgements are made on the issue, however with brief reasoning. Conclusions have been attempted, but they lack depth (**4 marks**).