

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 1

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

A. Identifying and demonstrating factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of the issue, showing an awareness of different points of view

Background and framing of issue and alternatives

The candidate clearly identifies the issue and provides background information in the first half of the opening paragraph and then goes on to explain the issue in further detail in the second half of the opening paragraph. The candidate continues his introduction in the second paragraph and outlines both the significance of the issue and outlines various points of view (ie ERG, DUP, Europhiles, UK Government). The candidate addresses each of the criteria outlined in the marking grid and is awarded **5 marks**.

Knowledge and understanding which supports the analysis of the issue

The candidate provides a wide range of detailed information, full and accurate explanations, provides relevant quotes and data throughout. This shows extensive development of knowledge and understanding to support their analysis of this issue. This was awarded **5 marks**.

In total, the candidate was awarded **10 out of 10 marks** for knowledge and understanding.

B. Analysing information in a structured manner

The candidate makes a wide range of analytical comments relating to the issue of leaving with a deal or no deal. The candidate deploys a range of analytical comments such as examining implications or consequences, identifying inconsistencies and linking components to political concepts. A number of analytical points are developed further by, for example, examining additional consequences which provides further justification.

For example, the candidate was awarded marks for analytical points on the following:

- ◆ Extended comments (page 2) examining the implications of acceptance of the proposed deal with the EU which is then linked with justification to the concept of democracy **(2 marks)**
- ◆ Analytical comment (page 3) outlining the potential impact of acceptance of the May deal on both the political system and voter participation **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Analytical comment (page 3) examining the implication of withdrawal from ECJ jurisdiction and linking to the concept of sovereignty **(1 mark)**

- ◆ Further analytical comment (page 3) on the political consequences of failing to honour the UK's financial obligations **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Analytical comment (pages 3 and 4) identifying the similar financial benefits of leaving with or without a deal **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Analytical comment (page 4) examining the impact of acceptance of a deal on support for the SNP with further development; additional justification is provided to explain how the SNP could respond with a consequential increase in support that could threaten the union. **(2 marks)**
- ◆ Comment on page 5 is made identifying the inconsistency between the May deal and the 2017 Conservative manifesto with additional development by the candidate to link this inconsistency to further distrust in politicians **(2 marks)**
- ◆ Analytical comment (pages 5 and 6) examining the implications of no deal on the UK's international reputation which is developed further by examining the potential implications on future trade negotiations **(2 marks)**
- ◆ Analytical comment on page 6 identifying inconsistencies in the no deal argument re: sovereignty which is further developed with additional justification linked to the demands of WTO membership **(2 marks)**
- ◆ Developed analytical comment (page 7) on the financial implications of both approaches which is extended to examine those mostly likely to be effected and the potential outcome resulting in civil unrest **(2 marks)**
- ◆ A number of further analytical comments on page 8 examining the impact on the authority of the PM **(1 mark)**, the creation of a constitutional crisis **(1 mark)** and link between no deal and democracy **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Analytical comment on page 9 examining the implications of no deal and the potential result of civil unrest **(1 mark)**

In total, the candidate was awarded **14 out of 14 marks** for analysis.

C. Communicating information from, and referring to, political sources

The candidate refers to a number of political sources throughout their assignment and communicates information from these accurately. Sources include a number of newspaper articles, the Conservative manifesto 2017, a BBC podcast and opinion poll data. As a least two sources are referred to and information from these is communicated accurately, the candidate is awarded **2 marks**.

In total, the candidate was awarded **2 out of 2 marks** for political sources.

D. Drawing a detailed and reasoned conclusion(s) about the issue

The candidate provides a detailed conclusion. This includes detailed reference to the evidence and an evaluation of different points of view.

In total, the candidate was awarded **4 out of 4 marks** for conclusions.

In total, the candidate was awarded 30/30 marks for this assignment.