

# Commentary on candidate evidence

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

## Candidate 1

### 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 issues and alternatives*

The candidate clearly identifies the issue of referenda, some basic background knowledge is given and an attempt to explain the issue of referenda is attempted. This explanation is not in detail and contains some inaccuracies. An attempt to give several points of view on the topic is given. Whilst this would not be awarded a mark here, together with the information given in the main body of the assignment would be enough to warrant a mark for this section. No attempt at giving the significance of the issue is explained enough to warrant a mark. The candidate is awarded **3 marks** for this section.

#### *Knowledge and understanding which supports the analysis of the issue*

The candidate provides some descriptions and explanations along with relevant quotes with some exemplification, several factual points are taken directly from the resource sheet with no development of the point. Several factors are highlighted but are not developed such as the referenda removing the involvement of politicians. This development of knowledge to support their analysis was awarded **4 marks**.

In total, the candidate was awarded **7 out of 10 marks** for knowledge and understanding.

### B. Analysing information in a structured manner

The candidate makes some limited analytical comments. For example, the candidate was awarded marks for analytical points on the following:

- ◆ An analytical comment is made on the consequence of using direct democracy. **(1 mark)**
- ◆ An interpretation of voters feeling confused or pressured during a general election is given. **(1 mark)**
- ◆ A consequence of referenda creating better informed citizens is given. **(1 mark)**
- ◆ An implication that referenda improve the political knowledge of young people is given. **(1 mark)**
- ◆ An interpretation of fear being a factor in the outcome of the Scottish Independence referendum **(1 mark)**

- ◆ A link to the political concept of power is given. **(1 mark)**

In total, the candidate was awarded **6 out of 14 marks** for analysis.

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

The candidate refers to several political sources including BBC news, New York Times and the textbook British Constitution and Politics.

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 attempts to make three conclusion surrounding increased involvement, fear used as a political tool and the simplicity of referenda. The candidate uses some reference to evidence for two of these but not enough is given for the third.

As a result, the candidate is awarded **2 out of 4 marks** for conclusions.

**In total the candidate was awarded 17/30 for the assignment.**