

Commentary on candidate evidence

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

Candidate 3

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 clarifies the issue in the opening paragraph, the background is explained in detail making reference to the USA and the UK constitutional positions. Examples are given from each country; these add to the background framing of the issue. These do not highlight several points of view and no link to a political concept is explained. The significance of the issue is not explicit. The candidate was awarded **3 marks** for this section.

Throughout the assignment the candidate makes use of KU to support the analysis in the assignment. This includes knowledge and understanding on codified and uncodified constitutions, flexibility, separation of powers and parliamentary sovereignty. These knowledge and understanding points use appropriate social science terminology and are linked to the analysis given throughout the assignment. **5 marks** were awarded for this aspect of knowledge and understanding.

In total, the candidate was awarded **8 out of 10 marks** for knowledge and understanding.

B. Analysing information in a structured manner

The candidate makes a number of analytical comments relating to the theme of human rights in relation to constitutions. The candidate makes analytical comments such as identifying the relative importance of components and identifying consequences, implications and offers differing interpretations of factors.

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

- ◆ Implication of flexibility of UK constitution **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Limitation of human rights in the UK **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Evaluation of UK protecting the rights more due to being flexible and having external pressures on it. **(2 marks)**
- ◆ Consequence of limited separation of power in UK removing citizen influence. **(2 marks)**

- ◆ USA system lacks democracy due to unelected officials' role in policy making. **(2 marks)**
- ◆ USA constitution being better at protecting rights due to the bill of rights being unrestricted. **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Elevated status of the US bill of rights protects citizens better due to an awareness of rights in USA **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Interpretation of strong UK government restricting UK citizen rights. **(1 mark)**
- ◆ Interpretation of USA constitution protecting rights due to each branch monitoring for rights breaches.
- ◆ Implication of bipartisan system in USA having impact on rights. **(2 marks)**

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 and communicates information accurately from a number of sources identified on the resource sheet. These include a textbook by Matthew Allan and reference to the work of political academic commentator Neil McNaughton. As a least two sources are referred to and information from these is communicated accurately.

The candidate is awarded **2 out of 2 marks**.

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

The candidate provided an insightful conclusion over the last paragraph that addressed and evaluated the main factors of the assignment. The candidate makes a successful attempt at evaluating points of view by offering a viewpoint and then rejecting it. As a result.

The candidate was awarded **4 out of 4 marks** for conclusions.

In total, the candidate is awarded 28/30 for the assignment.