Commentary on candidate evidence

The evidence for these candidates has achieved the following marks for this course assessment component.

Candidate 1

Assignment-writing title: My family and my school

The candidate was awarded 16 marks

Content
Overall, this is a competent piece of writing and the candidate addresses the title competently. Although the content is relevant, the coverage of the two topics is uneven. The candidate produces a short and succinct essay in a structured and organised manner.

Accuracy
The candidate demonstrates a good degree of grammatical accuracy corresponding to the level. Accurate use of topic vocabulary enables this candidate to convey meaning with clarity and demonstrates a range of vocabulary. However, there are a few other language interference errors, for example '我的妈妈很聪明和友好', '我的弟弟很可爱和善良', which detract from the overall impression. In this instance, the use of '又… 又.' to connect multiple adjectives would have resulted in a more natural-sounding sentence.

Language resource
The candidate uses detailed language with a variety of structures. A range of verbs and relevant phrases, in the first and third person singular and plural has been used.
The candidate successfully uses the comparative such as 比, as well as a superlative 最 to show cohesion of ideas. Linking phrases such as '不但…而且…' provide a sense of structure.

Candidate 2

Assignment-writing title: `My family and a friend`

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

Content
Overall, the content is relevant to only half of the title. There is an attempt to organise the essay, as evidenced in the sequential introduction of each family member. The candidate expresses ideas and opinions in a limited way and the essay is very short.

Accuracy
This piece of writing shows the repetitive use of 和 as a connector. There are examples of language interference, such as 我的爸爸大和瘦。The limited range of vocabulary and sentence structure limits the effectiveness of this essay. There are many word-character errors by joining up multiple character words into a single box. For example, 爸爸、妈妈、自信. There is an inadequate degree of 'spelling' accuracy.

Language resource
The candidate used a number of adjectives accurately but the number of times these are used throughout the essay shows the limitation of this piece of writing. Overall, the amount of detailed language is limited.

Candidate 3

Assignment-writing title: `My holidays`

The candidate was awarded **20 marks**.

Content
Overall, this is a very competent piece of writing and the candidate addresses the title in a full and balanced way. The content is relevant throughout, the candidate writes in a structured way, and ideas are organised in a logical manner. It is a coherent and cohesive piece of writing with a wide range of relevant ideas. Overall, the piece reads well.

Accuracy
The candidate demonstrates a very good degree of grammatical accuracy corresponding to the level. Topic vocabulary and word order are very accurate, allowing this candidate to convey meaning with clarity and efficiency.

Language resource
The candidate uses detailed language with a variety of structures throughout, using a wide range of verbs as well as sophisticated vocabulary, such as 抵达、干燥炎热. The use of clear paragraphing in the writing enhances its overall coherence. The candidate successfully uses time words to convey a range of tenses. The language flows very well.

Candidate 4

Assignment-writing title: My family and I

The candidate was awarded **16 marks**.

Content
Overall, this is a competent piece of writing and the candidate addresses the title. The content is relevant and organised. A range of ideas and opinions expressed, such as '...像我一样', '我觉得...', '我认为...'.

Accuracy
The candidate demonstrates a good degree of grammatical accuracy corresponding to the level. Accurate use of topic vocabulary enables this candidate to convey meaning with clarity. The 'spelling', i.e. writing of characters is very good with minor errors（名、处）. Whilst the vocabulary and word order are used correctly throughout, there is a repetition of content and structure across the paragraphs. Therefore, this piece of writing matches the pegged mark descriptors for 16 marks rather than 20.

Language resource
The candidate uses detailed language with a range of structures. A range of verbs and relevant phrases in the first and third person singular and plural has been used.
The candidate successfully uses words such as 周末、有时候 which provide a sense of time and sequence.

Candidate 5

Assignment-writing title: My hobby

The candidate was awarded **12 marks**.

Content

This comes across as a competent, carefully crafted piece of writing, with clear attempts to express opinions. The candidate writes about the importance of taking exercise.

Accuracy

The candidate demonstrates an adequate degree of grammatical accuracy corresponding to the level. There is an example of other language interference, for example, '他们总是帮助我更好'. In contrast, it could be argued that the piece displays many attributes of the 16 pegged mark descriptors. However, the repeated use of topic vocabulary and phrases, such as '踢足球'、'骑自行车'、'我和朋友...', suggests the candidate's level of vocabulary is somewhat more modest. The evident over-reliance on topic vocabulary detracts from the more sophisticated learned phrases in the text and lessens the overall impression. On balance, this is why this piece of writing was awarded 12 marks.

Language resource

The candidate does attempt to use detailed language as well as a range of structures. There is a consistent expression of opinions, '我认为运动很重要', '做运动有益你的健康' and these attempts are successful.

Candidate 6

Assignment-writing title: Advantages and disadvantages of mobile phones

The candidate was awarded **20 marks**.

Content
Overall, this is a competent piece of writing and the candidate addresses the title in a full and balanced way. The content is relevant and the language flows well. The candidate writes in a structured and organised manner with a wide range of ideas and opinions.

Accuracy
The candidate demonstrates a very good degree of grammatical accuracy corresponding to the level. Vocabulary and phrases used are sophisticated and accurate, for example, '锻炼身体'、沉迷于', '随时保持联系'、'离不开手机'. Overall, it is a coherent piece of writing with natural-sounding sentences.

Language resource
The candidate uses detailed language with a variety of structures from start to finish. The candidate uses a range of verbs and relevant phrases and there are even several examples of structures beyond National 5 level, e.g. 和朋友面对面的交流的机会越来越少'.
Sentences begin in a variety of ways, with a good understanding of word order and overall the writing flows well.