

# Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidates have achieved the following marks for the research sources (Section 2) of the assignment.

## Example 1 – excerpt

**Purpose: ‘to explore the effect that the cost-of-living crisis has had on economic agents’**

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for this extract.

The use of a table to present research sources is acceptable, although not best practice.

The URLs for the sources are given as an appendix. It would have been helpful to also give the URLs in the first column of the table.

The sentence in the ‘reason’ column does not attract marks because it is not specific to the topic of the report.

In the ‘value’ column, the first sentence does not attract marks, as being ‘valuable’ is not a value. If the first sentence had been written in the ‘Reason’ column, it would not have gained a mark as giving ‘a detailed overview and analysis of the issue’ is not specific to the topic of the report.

**1 mark** was given for the second ‘value’ because the candidate has given the value (being up to date) and explained why it is up to date (because it was published on 18 July 2022).

## Example 2 – excerpt

**Purpose: ‘to isolate and analyse the impacts of Brexit on the UK economy’**

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this extract.

The candidate presented the information by numbering it, giving a ‘headline’ and a URL followed by text. This style demonstrates best practice, in addition to giving information about all sources used in an appendix.

**1 mark** was given for the reason for using the article.

**1 mark** was given for the value (being up to date) and the explanation of why the article was up to date (being released on 1 January 2022).

The candidate states that the BBC is unbiased (ie the value), but does not go on to explain why the BBC is unbiased, so gets no mark. The candidate does not explain why the BBC is reliable, so gets no mark.

## Example 3 – excerpt

### **Purpose: ‘to investigate the economic impact of high house prices in Edinburgh’**

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this extract.

The candidate presented the information by giving a source number and name, followed by text. This style is acceptable, although it would be best practice to give a source number, a ‘headline’ and a URL as headings of the paragraph. In addition, information about all sources used should be given in an appendix.

**1 mark** was given for the reason for using the article. The candidate gave more information than was required as the reason for using the article. A simple statement about what the article contains is sufficient.

**1 mark** was given for the value (being unbiased) and the explanation of why the article was unbiased (because the BBC has a legal charter to remain impartial).

## Example 4 – excerpt

### **Purpose: ‘to investigate how the cost-of-living crisis will affect Scottish households’**

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this extract.

The candidate presented the information by giving a source number, a ‘headline’ and a URL followed by text. This style demonstrates best practice, in addition to giving information about all sources used in an appendix.

**1 mark** was given for the reason for using the article.

**1 mark** was given for the value (being up to date) and the explanation of why the article was up to date (being published on 12/01/23).

The candidate states that Volunteer Scotland is objective and mostly unbiased but does not go on to explain a reason for the organisation being objective or unbiased, so gains no further marks.

## Example 5 – excerpt

### **Purpose: ‘to investigate the impact of high inflation on the UK economy’**

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this extract.

The candidate presented the information by including the name of the information source within the text. This style is acceptable, although it would be best practice to give a source number, a ‘headline’ and a URL as headings of the paragraph, in addition to giving the URL for all sources used in an appendix.

**1 mark** was given for the reason for using the article. The second sentence was a repeat of the first reason for using the article and therefore did not gain an additional mark.

**1 mark** was given for the value (being up to date) and the explanation of why the article was up to date (being published on 6 October 2022).

The candidate gives concise as a value, and links it to being up to date. There is no reason that an up-to-date article should be concise and this, therefore, does not gain a mark.

## Example 6 – excerpt

### **Purpose: ‘to explore and enquire about the impact of the Ukraine Russia war and how it has impacted the UK economy and standards of living’**

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** for this extract.

The candidate presented the information by giving a source number, a ‘headline’ and a short-form URL followed by text. This style is acceptable although giving a source number, a ‘headline’ and a full URL as headings of the paragraph would be best practice, in addition to giving information about all sources used in an appendix.

**1 mark** was given for the reason for using the article.

The candidate gives reliable as a value and links it to being published on 19 September 2022. There is no reason that a publication date in September 2022 should make information reliable and this, therefore, does not gain a mark.

**1 mark** was given for the value (being concise) and an explanation of why the article was concise (being short and to the point).

## Example 7 – excerpt

### **Purpose: ‘to determine whether or not immigration benefits the economy of the UK’**

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for this extract.

The candidate presented the information by giving a source number and a URL followed by text. This style is acceptable although giving a source number, a ‘headline’ and a URL as headings of the paragraph would be best practice, in addition to giving information about all sources used in an appendix.

**1 mark** was given for the reason for using the article. The sentence about the way in which the source calculates the information is not necessary.

The candidate gives relevant as a value. This gains no marks as any article that is being used as a source is bound to be relevant and therefore the point is not mark worthy.

The candidate gives accurate as a value and links this to being from Oxford Economics, however, there is no explanation as to why information from Oxford Economics should be taken as accurate and therefore does not gain a mark.

The candidate gives up to date as a value however the accompanying explanation of the article being published in September 2018 shows that it is not up to date and therefore does not gain a mark.