**Written task 2: Critical response (HL)**

**Criterion A: Outline**

* Does the outline of the written task clearly highlight the particular focus of the task?

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| **Marks** | **Level descriptor** |
| 0 | The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below. |
| 1 | The outline partially highlights the particular focus of the task. |
| 2 | The outline clearly highlights the particular focus of the task. |

**Criterion B: Response to the question**

* To what extent is an understanding of the expectations of the question shown?
* How relevant and focused is the response to these expectations?
* Is the response supported by well-chosen references to the text(s)?

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| **Marks** | **Level descriptor** |
| 0 | The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below. |
| 1–2 | The student has a superficial understanding of the expectations of the question.Ideas are frequently irrelevant and/or repetitive.The response is not supported by references to the text(s). |
| 3–4 | There is mostly adequate understanding of the expectations of the question.Ideas are generally relevant and focused.The response is generally supported by references to the text(s). |
| 5–6 | There is good understanding of the expectations of the question.Ideas are mostly relevant and focused.The response is mostly supported by well-chosen references to the text(s). |
| 7–8 | There is thorough understanding of the expectations of the question.Ideas are relevant and focused.The response is fully supported by well-chosen references to the text(s). |

**Criterion C: Organization and argument**

* How well organized is the task?
* How coherent is the structure?
* How well developed is the argument of the written task?

**Note:** The word length for the written task is 800–1,000 words. If the word limit is exceeded, 2 marks will be deducted.

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| **Marks** | **Level descriptor** |
| 0 | The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below. |
| 1 | Little organization is apparent; the task has little structure and the argument is poorly developed. |
| 2 | Some organization is apparent; the task has some structure, although it is not sustained. The argument has some development. |
| 3 | The task is organized, and the structure is generally coherent. There is some development of the argument. |
| 4 | The task is well organized; the structure is mostly coherent and the argument is clearly developed. |
| 5 | The task is effectively organized; the structure is coherent and the argument is effectively developed. |

**Criterion D: Language and style**

* How effective is the use of language and style?
* How appropriate to the task is the choice of register and style? (“Register” refers, in this context, to the student’s use of elements such as vocabulary, tone, sentence structure and idiom appropriate to the task; register is assessed on the task itself.)

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| **Marks** | **Level descriptor** |
| 0 | The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below. |
| 1 | There is little clarity, with many basic errors; little sense of register and style. |
| 2 | There is some clarity, though grammar, spelling and sentence structure are often inaccurate; some sense of register, style and appropriate vocabulary.  |
| 3 | The use of language and the style are generally clear and effective, though there are some inaccuracies in grammar, spelling and sentence construction; generally appropriate in register, style and vocabulary.  |
| 4 | The use of language and the style are clear and effective, with a good degree of accuracy; sentence construction and vocabulary are varied, showing a growing maturity of style; the register is appropriate.  |
| 5 | The use of language and the style are very clear and effective, with a very good degree of accuracy; sentence construction and vocabulary are good; the style is confident and the register effective. |

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