

## Essay Marking with Letter Grade and Percentage Guide, RMC

<p><b>Key questions:</b>          Have they framed a coherent and answerable question?          Have they done enough of the right sort of research to answer it?          Have they expressed their answer clearly and without major error?  <b>If the answer is yes to all of these, then the essay passes (for undergraduate)</b></p>	<p><b>Narrative to student submitting essay:</b>          1. Overall assessment          2. What was good about the paper?          3. What needs work or improvement?          4. How to make it an A paper</p>
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hons	ltr	spread	Conversion scale	Undergraduate essays 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> year	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> year and BMAS Thesis	Graduate essays, War Studies
First class	A+	94-100	95	<b>Ideas:</b> some originality <b>Expression:</b> clearly expressed, free from errors of style, grammar, etc, <b>Support:</b> well-substantiated by data or footnotes, draws on primary sources	<b>Ideas:</b> originality in concept, and effective application of an accepted method to support it. <b>Expression:</b> clearly and elegantly expressed, free from errors <b>Support:</b> fully documented using a wide variety of relevant and recent secondary sources, and some primary sources	<b>Ideas:</b> originality in concept, expression and research design <b>Expression:</b> publishable material with minimum editing. <b>Support:</b> fully documented primary sources or an extensive and original compilation of secondary sources, using an appropriate method
	A	87-93	90			
	A-	80-86	83			
Second class	B+	76-79	78	<b>Ideas:</b> some blend of description and analysis, in balance <b>Expression:</b> generally good, free of major errors that affect meaning <b>Support:</b> mainly secondary sources, limited number or quality of sources	<b>Ideas:</b> some originality <b>Expression:</b> clearly expressed, free from errors of style, grammar, etc, <b>Support:</b> well-substantiated by data or footnotes, draws on primary sources	<b>Ideas:</b> originality in concept, and effective application of an accepted method to support it. <b>Expression:</b> clearly and elegantly expressed, free from errors <b>Support:</b> fully documented using a wide variety of relevant and recent secondary sources, and some primary sources
	B	73-75	75			
	B-	70-72	72			
Third class	C+	66-69	68	<b>Ideas:</b> regurgitated, lack clarity <b>Expression:</b> errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling <b>Support:</b> Misses some key recent works in wide circulation (e.g. periodicals)	<b>Ideas:</b> some blend of description and analysis, in balance <b>Expression:</b> generally good, free of major errors that affect meaning <b>Support:</b> mainly secondary sources, limited number or quality of sources	<b>Ideas:</b> some originality <b>Expression:</b> clearly expressed, free from errors of style, grammar, etc, <b>Support:</b> well-substantiated by data or footnotes, draws on primary sources
	C	63-65	65			
	C-	60-62	62			
Pass	D+	56-59	58	<b>Ideas:</b> no ideas; incoherent or jumbled <b>Expression:</b> cut & paste; major errors of grammar, punctuation, spelling, which affect meaning <b>Support:</b> few relevant footnotes, little evidence of research to support ideas	<b>Ideas:</b> regurgitated, lack clarity <b>Expression:</b> errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling <b>Support:</b> Misses some key recent works in wide circulation (e.g. periodicals)	<b>Ideas:</b> some blend of description and analysis, in balance <b>Expression:</b> generally good, free of major errors that affect meaning <b>Support:</b> mainly secondary sources, limited number or
	D	53-55	55			
	D-	50-52	52			
Failure	E*	40-49	45	<b>Ideas:</b> plagiarism or clear lack of effort <b>Expression:</b> internal contradictions or major errors <b>Support:</b> misquotes, factual errors, unsubstantiated statements	<b>Ideas:</b> no ideas; incoherent or jumbled <b>Expression:</b> cut & paste; major errors of grammar, punctuation, spelling, which affect meaning <b>Support:</b> few relevant footnotes, little evidence of research to support ideas	<b>Ideas:</b> regurgitated, lack clarity <b>Expression:</b> errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling <b>Support:</b> Misses some key recent works in wide circulation (e.g. periodicals)
	F*	Below 40	20			