

# Assess

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## DESCRIPTION

Make an informed judgement.

Approach this similarly to other evaluative commands (evaluate, to what extent, discuss).

## TYPICAL TARIFF

- 4 marks
- 6 marks
- 9 marks

## TYPICAL AO

All AOs are tested, but likely to include elements of AO3 as a judgement should be made.

AO1 and AO2 – demonstrate knowledge and understanding.

AO3 – application of knowledge and/or evaluation.

AO4 – geographical and fieldwork skills.

## EXAMPLES

### Paper 1

Choose either an earthquake or a volcanic eruption. Assess the extent to which primary effects are more significant than secondary effects. Use Figure 5a or 5b and an example you have studied. **[9 marks, AO1, AO2 and AO3] SAMs 1**

Assess the extent to which tropical storms have effects on people and the environment. Use Figure 5 and an example you have studied. **[9 marks, AO1, AO2 and AO3] 2018**

### Paper 2

Use Figure 3 and a case study of a city in a LIC/NEE to assess the challenge of providing services to the city's population. **[6 marks, AO2 and AO3] SAMs 3**

Assess the importance of transport improvements to the UK economy. **[9 marks, AO1, AO2 and AO3] 2018**

### Paper 3

Assess how effective your presentation technique(s) were in representing the data collected in this enquiry. **[6 marks, AO3] SAMs 1**

Assess the usefulness of measures of central tendency, such as median, mean and mode, in analysing the housing quality data collected by the students. **[4 marks, AO3 and AO4] 2019**

For one of your fieldwork enquiries, assess the extent to which the accuracy of the results and the reliability of the conclusions could be improved. **[9 marks, AO3] 2018**

## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Students should:

- refer back to the question in answers using words from the question, eg 'important', 'significant', 'useful'
- consider structuring responses appropriately, eg:
  - opening with a judgement to focus the answer
  - making multiple points to support the judgement
  - making a counter-argument if needed
  - finishing with a clear conclusion, emphasising the judgement
- use evidence from examples, case studies or fieldwork, linking it back to the question
- link ideas from the figure if there's one
- answer 'how' and 'why' to develop responses
- extend their argument using phrases like, 'because...', 'this means that...', 'this leads to...', 'as a result...'
- use comparative words to evaluate, eg 'whereas', 'however', 'although'
- measure their judgement by using a scale like the example below.



<b>Agree/ disagree?</b>	Completely agree	Strongly agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Strongly disagree	Completely disagree
<b>Importance?</b>	Extremely important	Very important	Quite important	Partially important	Not very important	Completely irrelevant
<b>Impact?</b>	Enormous impact	Significant impact	Moderate impact	Partial impact	Minor impact	No impact
<b>Successful/ effectiveness/ usefulness?</b>	Completely successful	Very successful	Quite successful	Partially successful	Not very successful	Completely unsuccessful
<b>How severe/ serious?</b>	Extremely severe	Very severe	Quite serious	Partially serious	Not very serious	Not serious at all

## EXAMPLE RESPONSE

Assess the importance of transport improvements to the UK economy.

[9 marks] 2018

**AO1** – Demonstrating knowledge of specific transport improvements in the UK.

**AO2** – Demonstrating developed understanding of how the improvements link to the economy.

**AO3** – Demonstrating application of knowledge to assess how important improving transport is for the UK economy.

### L3/7-mark answer:

The north south divide in the UK show vast inequalities with the unemployment rates in the north-east being 9.9% and only 4.4% in the south east. Deindustrialisation hit the north worse than the south east and children on average in the south do better than children in the north in their GCSEs. The government is creating HS2, it is a highspeed rail link costing £50 billion which connects the north and the south. This will decrease commuting time so increase productivity as well as boost cooperation between northern and southern economies and attract more investment in the north. Liverpool 2 is a new port being built in Liverpool costing £500 million. It will be able to hold the largest transport ships in the world, massively boosting trade to the UK and specifically the north west of England, so more jobs will be created through this new port development as well as more trading opportunities for companies. The UK government is also improving roads, it's spending £20 million on adding new lanes to motorways to reduce traffic. These improvements are necessary to economic development in the UK.

### Examiner's comments:

**AO1** – easily L3 – good specific detail of more than one transport improvement.

**AO2** – easily L3 – thorough understanding of how the improvement will lead to (or are planned to) economic change.

**AO3** – L2 – the assessment is all positive and somewhat implicit in linking between the scenario outlined at the beginning (which is only useful because of what comes later – it isn't clearly any particular AO) and the likely outcomes.

**Overall mark** – Level 3: 7 marks – This answer required a more explicit judgement of the importance of improving transport for the UK's economy, eg Is it extremely important? Somewhat important? Irrelevant

