

Student advisory exemplar – Visual Arts exemplar A

Criteria	Maximum mark	Descriptor level achieved	Comments
A Research question	2	1	A huge research question. Not sure how such a question can be answered.
B Introduction	2	1	Rationale for the study is evident but does not show how the research question relates to existing knowledge on the topic.
C Investigation	4	2	There is an extensive bibliography, but many of the references do not appear to have been used.
D Knowledge and understanding	4	3	Although some good references have been used, the essay is not clearly and precisely located in an academic context.
E Reasoned argument	4	2	Is at best only partially effective in presenting evidence to answer the research question.
F Analysis and evaluation	4	2	More evidence is needed demonstrating the difference made by Ai Weiwei's work.
G Use of subject language	4	2	A good effort has been made considering that English is not the candidate's first language.
H Conclusion	2	1	Not consistent with evidence presented in the essay.
I Formal Presentation	4	2	Generally satisfactory but could be improved with a list of figures stating where they were found. Attention needed to marginal notations
J Abstract	2	1	Although a conclusion is stated we are not sure how it was arrived at.
K Holistic judgment	4	2	A brave extended essay for a Chinese student.
Total		19/36	
Summative comment		The research question was too large and the evidence required in order to answer it, too difficult to obtain. Nevertheless we recognise the candidate's personal engagement with the work of this artist and activist.	