



## ESSAY

TEAL:

Topic sentence  
Explanation  
An example  
Link back

QN

**Overprotective parents raise better children.  
Do you agree?**











Raw Score	Mark
23+	A1
21-22	A2
20	B3
18-19	B4
17	C5
15-16	C6
14	D7
12-13	E8
11 and below	F9

Raw Score	Mark

Band	O'level Marking Scheme	Marks
A	<p><b>Language</b> – accurate apart from very occasional slips</p> <p><b>Sentences</b> – varied structure; demonstrates skill to use different lengths and types for particular effects</p> <p><b>Verbs forms &amp; sentences</b> – largely correct; tenses are appropriate and consistently used to sustain a logical progression of events and ideas</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> – wide &amp; precise</p> <p><b>Punctuation</b> – accurate and helpful to the reader</p> <p><b>Spelling</b> – accurate across the full range of vocabulary</p> <p><b>Paragraphs</b> – show unity, are linked, and show evidence of planning</p> <p><b>Response to topic</b> – addressed with consistent relevance; interest of reader is aroused and sustained</p> <p><b>Response to topic</b> – addressed with consistent relevance; interest of reader is aroused and sustained</p>	27-30
B	<p><b>Language</b> – accurate with occasional errors that are either slips or arise from attempts to use ambitious structures or vocabulary that may be imperfectly understood</p> <p><b>Sentences</b> – some variation of length &amp; type, including the confident use of complex sentences to create some natural fluency</p> <p><b>Verbs forms &amp; sentences</b> – occasional slips in but sequence will be consistent and clear through the piece</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> – wide enough to convey intended shades of meaning with some precision</p> <p><b>Punctuation</b> – accurate and generally helpful</p> <p><b>Spelling</b> – nearly always accurate</p> <p><b>Paragraphs</b> – show unity and are usually appropriately linked, show some evidence of planning</p> <p><b>Response to topic</b> – relevant; interest of the reader is aroused &amp; sustained through most of the composition</p> <p><b>Tone &amp; register</b> – genuine effort made to achieve appropriateness to the topic</p>	23-26
C	<p><b>Language</b> – mostly accurate; errors occurred will not mar clarity of communication</p> <p><b>Sentences</b> – may show some variety of structure &amp; length but a tendency to repeat sentence types &amp; 'shapes', producing a monotonous effect</p> <p><b>Verbs forms &amp; sentences</b> – may have errors in irregular verb forms but control of tense sequence will be sufficient to sustain a clear progression of events or ideas</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> – simple vocab &amp; idioms are mainly correct; mistakes may occur when more sophistication is attempted</p> <p><b>Punctuation</b> – generally accurate but errors may occur when more difficult tasks are attempted; eg the punctuation of direct speech. Sentence separation is correctly marked by punctuation.</p> <p><b>Spelling</b> – accurate for simple vocabulary; errors may occur when more ambitious vocabulary is used</p> <p><b>Paragraphs</b> – show some unity but links may be absent or inappropriate</p> <p><b>Response to topic</b> – relevant &amp; will arouse some interest in the reader. Lack of originality and/or some evidence of lack of planning.</p> <p><b>Tone &amp; register</b> – tone usually appropriate to topic; may have slips of register with some unsuitable vocabulary or idiom.</p>	19-22

Band	O'level Marking Scheme	Marks
D	<p><b>Language</b> – sufficiently accurate to communicate meaning. Patches of clear, accurate language, particularly when simple vocabulary &amp; structures are used.</p> <p><b>Sentences</b> – some variety of sentence length and structure, but reader may not be convinced that this variety is for a particular purpose.</p> <p><b>Verbs forms &amp; sentences</b> – show errors &amp; inconsistency which cause some uncertainty in the sequence of events or disturb the ease of communication</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> – usually adequate to convey intended meaning but may be insufficiently developed to achieve precision. Idioms may be uncertain at times.</p> <p><b>Punctuation</b> – used but may not enhance/clarify meaning. Some sentence separation errors may occur occasionally.</p> <p><b>Spelling</b> – Simple words spelt accurately, but more complex vocabulary may show some spelling weakness</p> <p><b>Paragraphs</b> – Used but may lack unity or coherence.</p> <p><b>Response to topic</b> – a genuine attempt made to address the topic, but there may be digressions or failures of logic &amp; there may be occasional irrelevance. May lack liveliness and interest value</p> <p><b>Tone &amp; register</b> – tone may be uneven</p>	15-18
E	<p><b>Language</b> – overall meaning is never in doubt, but the errors are sufficiently frequent and serious to hamper precision, and may slow down speed of reading.</p> <p><b>Sentences</b> – some simple structures will be accurate, but a script is unlikely to sustain accuracy for long</p> <p><b>Verbs forms &amp; sentences</b> – errors in them will sometimes confuse the sequence of events</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> – limited; either too simple to convey precise meaning or more ambitious but imperfectly understood. Some idiomatic errors are likely.</p> <p><b>Punctuation</b> – simple ones will usually be accurate, but there may be frequent sentence separation errors.</p> <p><b>Spelling</b> – simple words will usually be spelt correctly, but there may be inconsistency, and frequent mistakes in the spelling of more difficult words.</p> <p><b>Paragraphs</b> – lack unity or be used haphazardly.</p> <p><b>Response to topic</b> – show some relevance but the incidence of linguistic error is likely to distract the reader from merits of content</p> <p><b>Tone &amp; register</b> – tone may sometimes indicate that candidate recognises the nature of the topic but only inconsistently</p>	11-14
F	<p><b>Language</b> – many serious errors of various kinds throughout, but they will be of the 'single-word' type i.e. they could be corrected without rewriting the sentence.</p> <p><b>Communication</b> is established but the weight of errors may cause 'blurring' from time to time</p> <p><b>Sentences</b> – simple &amp; repetitive in structure</p> <p><b>Verbs forms &amp; sentences</b> – frequent errors in verb forms; haphazard changes of tenses will confuse the meaning.</p> <p><b>Vocabulary</b> – conveys meaning but is likely to be simple &amp; imprecise. Errors in idiomatic usage will be a significant feature.</p> <p><b>Punctuation</b> – haphazard &amp; may be completely absent in some parts</p> <p><b>Spelling</b> – inconsistent</p> <p><b>Paragraphs</b> – haphazard or non-existent</p> <p><b>Response to topic</b> – evidence of interesting &amp; relevant subject matter but the weight of linguistic errors will tend to obscure or neutralise its effect</p> <p><b>Tone &amp; register</b> – may have some recognition of appropriate tone for the genre</p>	7-10