



CSUK's
Essay Style Exam Question
Guide & Workbook

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How to Use This Guide and Workbook

Depending on your confidence levels and current aptitude for writing essay-style exam questions, choose either the 'scaffolded response' question template or the 'free response'

question template.

The 'scaffolded response' question template provides you with a structure and key points to consider, which can help you formulate your answer, while the 'free response' question template offers no support.

Mark Scheme

Mark Band 3-High Level (6-8 marks):

The student shows a deep understanding of the topic and includes many accurate details. The consistently connect their knowledge to the given situation. Examples are clearly related to the explanation, and they discuss the pros and cons of the issue, considering all areas and factors. The answer has a clear and logical structure. All information is relevant and supported by

Mark Band 2-Mid Level (3-5 marks):

The student shows a fair understanding of the topic and includes mostly accurate details but may miss some points. They connect their knowledge to the given situation, but some opportunities are missed. Examples are mostly related to the explanation. The student fries to discuss the impact on most areas and factors. The answer has some structure, and most information is relevant and supported by some evidence.

Mark Band 1-Low Level (1-2 marks):

The student shows only basic knowledge of the topic, with limited understanding and some incorrect details. They make a weak attempt to connect their knowledge to the given situation. The student provides only a simple statement without much support. The answer is unstructured and the information is supported by limited evidence, which may not be clearly related to the topic.

0 marks: No attempt to answer the question or the response is not worth any credit

Before you begin writing your answer, review the mark scheme to gain a clear understanding of how your essay will be assessed and what is required to achieve a higher mark band.

After attempting the question, either try self-marking your answer using the mark scheme, ask a peer to evaluate your essay, or request that your teacher assesses your work.

Once you have received feedback on your answer, examine the exemplar answers and compare them to your own. Take time to identify the differences between the exemplars and understand the reasoning behind each example's placement within the associated mark scheme level band.

Exemplar Answers	Exemplar Answers		
High Level Exemplar Answer:	High Level Exemplar Reasoning:		
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Middle Level Exemplar Answer:	Middle Level Exemplar Reasoning:		
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Low Level Exemplar Answer:	Low Level Exemplar Reasoning:		
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As you progress through the workbook, you will soon become familiar with the common elements that your essay should include, such as a standard structure, evidence of indepth understanding, addressing the key requirements of the question, and discussing both sides of any point you make.

Sample Chapter

Essay Based Practice Question 1 – Artificial Intelligence

Question:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has made significant advancements in recent years, leading to a growing reliance on AI for various applications. Discuss the potential consequences of AI becoming more prevalent in the workforce. Consider the following in your answer:

- economic impact
- societal impact
- environmental impact

Scaffolded Response:

Introduction:

- Briefly introduce the topic of Al in the workforce.
- Mention that the answer will discuss the economic, societal, and environmental consequences.

Economic Impact:

- Discuss the positive economic effects of AI in the workforce (e.g., increased productivity, cost savings).
- Discuss the negative economic effects of AI in the workforce (e.g., job displacement, unemployment, income inequality).
- Provide specific examples to support both positive and negative aspects.

Societal Impact:

- Discuss the positive societal effects of AI in the workforce (e.g., improved quality of life, advancements in healthcare, education, transportation).
- Discuss the negative societal effects of Al in the workforce (e.g., social unrest, privacy concerns, data security, ethical issues).
 Provide specific examples to
- Provide specific examples to support both positive and negative aspects.

Environmental Impact:

- Discuss the positive environmental effects of AI in the workforce (e.g., optimisation of resource use, reduced emissions, addressing climate change).
- Discuss the negative environmental effects of AI in the workforce (e.g., increased e-waste, energy consumption for AI systems)
- for Al systems).
 Provide specific examples to support both positive and negative aspects.

Conclusion:

- Summarise the main points discussed in the answer.
- Emphasise the importance of considering the consequences of AI in the workforce and the need for appropriate policies to address potential negative effects.

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environmental impact	
Free Response:	

Mark Scheme

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The student shows a deep understanding of the topic and includes many accurate details. They consistently connect their knowledge to the given situation. Examples are clearly related to the explanation, and they discuss the pros and cons of the issue, considering all areas and factors. The answer has a clear and logical structure. All information is relevant and supported by evidence.

Mark Band 2-Mid Level (3-5 marks):

The student shows a fair understanding of the topic and includes mostly accurate details but may miss some points. They connect their knowledge to the given situation, but some opportunities are missed. Examples are mostly related to the explanation. The student tries to discuss the impact on most areas and factors. The answer has some structure, and most information is relevant and supported by some evidence.

Mark Band 1-Low Level (1-2 marks):

The student shows only basic knowledge of the topic, with limited understanding and some incorrect details. They make a weak attempt to connect their knowledge to the given situation. The student provides only a simple statement without much support. The answer is unstructured, and the information is supported by limited evidence, which may not be clearly related to the topic.

0 marks: No attempt to answer the question or the response is not worth any credit.

Exemplar Answers

High Level Exemplar Answer:

The rising presence of AI in the workforce brings about significant economic, societal, and environmental effects. Economically speaking, AI could boost productivity and efficiency across various industries, leading to cost reductions and increased profits. However, there's a downside as AI might take over jobs previously done by humans, causing increased unemployment and income inequality, particularly for low-skilled workers.

When it comes to society, Al's rise can have both positive and negative consequences. On the positive side, Al can enhance our quality of life by automating mundane tasks, allowing us to concentrate on more creative and satisfying pursuits. Furthermore, Al has the potential to revolutionise fields like healthcare, education, and transportation, leading to improved services and accessibility. On the negative side, displaced human workers may result in social unrest and worsen existing social divisions. Additionally, privacy, data security, and ethical concerns will become more urgent as Al becomes more ingrained in our everyday lives.

Environmentally, Al can help tackle various challenges, such as climate change and resource depletion, by optimising processes and promoting efficient resource use. For example, Al can enhance energy management in smart grids or optimise transportation systems to reduce emissions. However, the increased dependence on Al and technology also carries its own environmental costs, like increased e-waste and energy consumption associated with data centres and Al training processes. So, while Al has the potential to significantly change the workforce, it's vital to consider the economic, societal, and environmental repercussions of this shift and develop suitable policies to alleviate potential negative effects.

High Level Exemplar Reasoning:

The high-level band exemplar answer is well-structured, with a clear and logical flow of ideas. It demonstrates a thorough understanding of the question and covers all three impact areas (economic, societal, and environmental) in depth. The answer provides specific examples for each area and discusses both positive and negative consequences of Al in the workforce. It shows a balanced view and recognises the need for appropriate policies to address potential negative effects.

Middle Level Exemplar Answer:

The growing use of AI in the workforce has several economic, societal, and environmental impacts. Economically, AI can lead to better productivity and lower costs, but it may also cause job losses as machines take over human workers' roles. This could result in increased unemployment rates, particularly among low-skilled workers.

Regarding societal impact, AI has the potential to improve our lives by automating repetitive tasks and contributing to progress in fields like healthcare and education. However, there might be negative consequences, such as social unrest due to job losses and concerns about privacy and data security.

Environmentally, Al can help address challenges like climate change by optimising resource use and reducing emissions. However, there are also downsides, such as the growth in electronic waste and the energy consumption needed for Al systems. In summary, Al has the potential to transform the workforce, but it is crucial to consider the various consequences and develop policies to address them.

Middle Level Exemplar Reasoning:

The middle level band exemplar answer is reasonably structured, but not as detailed or thorough as the high-level band exemplar. It demonstrates an understanding of the question and covers the three impact areas, but some opportunities to provide more examples or depth are missed. The answer does mention both positive and negative consequences of AI, but the discussion is not as balanced or well-developed as the high-level band exemplar.

Low Level Exemplar Answer:

Al is getting more popular in the workforce, and it has some effects. Al can help businesses save money and work more efficiently, but it might also cause people to lose their jobs. Al can make life better by doing boring tasks for us and helping in areas like healthcare, but it might cause problems like people being upset about losing jobs and worries about privacy. Al can help the environment by using resources better, but it can also cause more waste and use more energy. It's important to think about the good and bad things Al can do in the workforce.

Low Level Exemplar Reasoning:

The low-level band exemplar answer is basic and lacks a clear structure. It shows only a limited understanding of the question and the impact areas. The material provided is simplistic and contains some inaccuracies. The answer mentions positive and negative consequences of Al in the workforce, but does not provide specific examples or a well-developed discussion. The relationship between the information and the evidence is unclear, making the answer less effective in addressing the question.