

Extended Essay: Exemplar commentary			
Subject	Biology	If applicable, theme for WSEE	N/A
If applicable, category for language essays	N/A	If applicable, subjects used for WSEE	N/A
Title of essay	Harvesting electron transport chain electrons from chloroplast thylakoids of <i>Spinacia oleracea</i>		
Essay number	C	Examination session	May 2014
Assessment of extended essay			
Criteria	Mark awarded	Commentary	
A: Focus and method [6]	5	The essay structure adopted by this candidate, in particular the section "Design and Methods" addresses criterion A effectively. This candidate has done a very good job of explaining why various steps were taken and the rationale behind the decision-making. The candidate only superficially addressed the global context of the issue, so the purpose and focus of the research was not strongly enough represented. Hence, the topic was not communicated effectively to the highest level of the strand.	
B: Knowledge and understanding [6]	6	The candidate addressed both strands and all indicators to the highest level	
C: Critical thinking	10	Research, analysis and discussion/evaluation are all strong and achieve the highest band (10-12).	

[12]		However, in the analysis, the candidate didn't fully explain or show understanding of the choice of and application of the statistical tests used. Also, the evaluation didn't relate the results to current research thinking in the area. These slight deficiencies led to a scoring at the lower end of the band.
D: Presentation [4]	4	All strands achieved at the highest level
E: Engagement [6] (not included)		The assessment of an accompanying RPPF will affect the overall mark awarded and the grade achieved.
Total marks awarded	25/28	<p>Summative comment</p> <p>Excellent research, knowledge and understanding were demonstrated. Knowledge and research-based decision making and argumentation are explained throughout the process. The structure of the essay matches the criteria well. The essay could have engaged more with the global aspects of the topic and the current state of thinking.</p> <p>Please note: as a result of modifying existing extended essays for illustrative purposes, not all exemplars have an accompanying RPPF for assessment under criterion E (this is a mandatory element for all essays as of 2018). As a result, this essay has been marked out of 28 rather than 34.</p>