**Grade Descriptors (UG)**

**Very High First Class (90-100)**

Such answers are **exceptional** and *fully* answer the question demonstrating the attainment

of all learning objectives and in adherence to all guidelines. The answer will be expected

to show an exceptional level of achievement with respect to the following criteria:

insight and depth of understanding of the material;

the exercise of critical judgement along with clarity of analysis and of expression;

knowledge of the relevant literature.

**High First Class (80-89)**

Such answers are **outstanding** and provide a *near-full* and well-structured answer to the

question and can be expected to indicate an outstanding level of achievement of all of the

following qualities:

insight and depth of understanding of the material;

the exercise of critical judgement along with clarity of analysis and of expression;

good knowledge of the relevant literature.

**First Class (70-79)**

Such answers are **excellent** and provide a *largely*- *full* and well-structured answer to the

question and can be expected to indicate excellence in *some or most of* the following

qualities:

insight and depth of understanding of the material;

the exercise of critical judgement along with clarity of analysis and of expression;

knowledge of the relevant literature.

**Upper-second Class (60-69)**

Such answers are **very good** and provide a generally well-structured answer to the

question and can be expected to indicate *some of* the following qualities:

a good or very good understanding of the material;

clarity of analysis, of argument and of expression;

a demonstrable grasp of the relevant literature.

**Lower-second Class (50-59)**

Such answers are **good** and provide a clear answer to the question. They can be expected

to show *most of* the following features:

a firm understanding of the material;

clarity of analysis and argument, albeit limited in extent;

some awareness of the relevant literature.

**Note**: What distinguishes a high Lower-second Class from a low Upper-second Class is

greater extent of understanding of material and clarity of analysis and argument, as well

as at least some selective knowledge of the relevant literature, not mere awareness of its

existence.

**Third Class (40-49)**

Such answers are **sufficient** and demonstrate a *rudimentary* understanding of the issues

and offer *only partial* answers to the question. They can be expected to show some of the

following features:

sparse coverage of the material with several key elements missing;

unsupported assertions and a lack of clear analysis or argument;

important errors and inaccuracies.

**Fail (30-39)**

Such answers are **insufficient** and, while showing some awareness of the area, fail to deal

with the question in a way that suggest more than a fragmented and shallow acquaintance

with the subject. They are often error-prone, lacking in coherence, structure and evidence

of independent thought.

**Bad Fail (20-29)**

Such answers are **inadequate** and fail to demonstrate the ability to engage with the

question. They demonstrate only the most basic awareness of the area and may contain

errors. They will be almost completely lacking in coherence, structure and evidence of

independent thought.

**Very Bad Fail (10-19)**

Such answers are **severely inadequate** and exhibit an almost complete lack of

engagement with the area or question.

**Extremely Bad Fail (0-9)**

Such answers are **profoundly inadequate** and exhibit a complete lack of engagement

with the area or question.