

Danish – Group 2

The overall impression of the extended essays is that they are on a high level, and live up to the standards as for formula, content and range. The subjects are very interesting, they are very much alike: on culture, politics, social life and tradition. The students seem very engaged in their subjects. What strikes me is the homogeneity of this year's extended essays: they are more or less on the same level, within the same fields and written with the same enthusiasm. Another striking thing is the influence of the Internet on the students' work.

General assessment criteria

As for the research question, approach to the research question and the abstract, the students all seem competent in dealing with these – they follow the book. The criteria analysis and arguments seem to be the weakest, it is as if they do not have the tools to analyse, they often describe, make a summary or report instead of an analysis, and instead of arguing for their analysis, they postulate and imply. As it is a general tendency, one should not focus too much on it in the evaluation – I have tried not to be too critical here. They almost all know how to make good conclusions, and the formal presentation is overall on a high level. I would like to comment on two things here: many of the students do not know how to make proper bibliographies, and none of the students knew how to make proper punctuation, I have not punished them for these lacks, as they seem to be general.

As for the assessment criteria, I am very impressed. The students knowledge of the language and culture is at a very high level, the same goes for their ability to communicate and use the language. Again, I must emphasis my impression of homogeneity. Some of this might be due to the use of the computer and the Internet, but still you get the impression of competent students who can work independently and use the tools they have.

As for recommendations, I would first of all say good work, stick to the high level, but also I would like to recommend working more on analysis and arguments. Today's students grew up with the computer and the internet, so much more important is it to teach them to be more critical to these media, it is as if they consider the internet a more reliable source than books, as if they just accept the information they get here without questioning it at all. A last comment, knowledge of punctuation seems to be non-existent.