Examiners are reminded that these marking criteria are for papers at multiple Parts of Tripos, and judgments should be appropriate to the level being examined.

In the following marking criteria higher grades should demonstrate not only the qualities specified for that class but also all the qualities expected of lower grades.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Keyword</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Subdivision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80-85</td>
<td>I*</td>
<td>OUTSTANDING</td>
<td>An outstanding performance, excellent in all aspects: range of material covered, including references, argument, analysis and exposition. Virtually without flaw, lapse or inconsistency, in which all the qualities deemed to constitute first-class work are present in a remarkable degree.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dist.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Data questions: The answer includes a detailed, accurate and comprehensive presentation of the dataset/exercise and articulates the significance and implications of the specific dataset/exercise for the wider theoretical debates and alternative approaches and contributes new directions to the theoretical debate in a sophisticated and innovative way.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>EXCELLENT</td>
<td>Work that is very good or excellent both in the range and command of the material covered and in argument and analysis. The answer engages closely and critically with the question; provides full supporting evidence; shows evidence of originality, using examples beyond those presented in lecture; brings in relevant material from a wide but coherent range of sources; includes consistent and full references supported by a complete bibliography; demonstrates attention to detail; and is well-planned and complete.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td></td>
<td>VERY GOOD</td>
<td>Commentaries demonstrate clear analysis of and close engagement with textual detail of grammar, style, and expression, provide insights to the text, and are structured in a way which is not simply dictated by a linear reading of the passage.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

75-79: Excellent performance, meeting all, or virtually all, of these criteria.

70-74: Very good performance meeting many of these criteria.
**Data questions:** Work that identifies all the analytical challenges raised by the dataset and engages critically with aspects of methodology and/or the empirical adequacy/limitations of a given dataset. The theoretical analysis identifies hypotheses relevant to the phenomena in question, employs and combines elements from varying theoretical proposals and perspectives in an innovative way and articulates concrete predictions of proposed analysis beyond the given dataset.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>60-69</th>
<th>II.1</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Work that shows a good broad-based knowledge of the topic, presented in an organised way, clearly argued and focused on the set question, and with appropriate, but routine, exemplification. Includes references supported by a complete bibliography. Broadly accurate in technical detail.

Commentaries pay some attention to textual detail, show good organisation, and offer perceptive comments on the text. A ‘linear’ commentary (which offers a running commentary on the text from beginning to end) may be in this class if the comments are perceptive and accurate and it does not fall into précis and paraphrase.

Data questions: Work that shows good understanding of the analytical challenge posed by a dataset. Broadly accurate in technical detail. Good comments on methodological aspects and/or empirical adequacy of a given dataset. Identifies relevant hypotheses and offers a well organised analysis.

65-69: A persuasive and effective answer, regularly, but not consistently, sophisticated in analysis and impressive in displaying relevant knowledge; includes some attempt to treat the evidence critically and to synthesise arguments.

60-64: Competent and accurate in the reproduction of received ideas, showing evidence of reading of the principal sources of published work on the subject, and supported with reasonable exemplification.

65-69

Data questions: The answer identifies most of the analytical challenges, identifies specific hypotheses relevant to the empirical phenomenon in question and shows some attempt for a critical evaluation of methods and the dataset; shows attempts to combine elements from varying proposals and perspectives.

60-64

Data questions: Competent and accurate in identifying the main points of interest in the data and commenting on methods and scope of dataset. Competent in identification of relevant theoretical hypotheses/proposals to account for the data, reasonably applied and explained.

(continues)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>II.2</td>
<td>FAIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td></td>
<td>55-59: Competent understanding of the basic material with reasonable organisation and focus, but may tend to state ideas rather than explain or justify them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-54</td>
<td></td>
<td>50-54: Deficiencies in understanding and coverage together with poor organisation and focus (the argument may emerge in a fragmentary unfocused or incoherent way). Some material may be irrelevant or its significance left unclear. Data questions: 55-59: Competent understanding of key points of interest in the data and connection to relevant hypotheses/analyses but mostly descriptive discussion without explanation. 50-54: Deficiencies in understanding of the main points of interest in the data, misinterpretations and factual mistakes, weak analysis and poor organisation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>POOR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15-39 | F | FAIL | Completely fails to demonstrate understanding of material; or irrelevant or extremely superficial. No attention to references or bibliography.

Data questions: Completely fails to make any relevant observations about the data and attempt an interpretation or analysis.

Notes:

Exceptions: An essay which fails to address the question adequately will receive a lower mark than its overall quality would otherwise gain.

Examiners should note that where an essentially similar paper is set in the MML Tripos for both Part II and Part IB and in the Linguistics Tripos for Part IIA and IIB, Part IB scripts should be marked separately from Part II scripts and Part IIA scripts should be marked separately from Part IIB scripts. In the marking of Part IB scripts, credit should be given for sophistication or subtlety of argument, even if the range of texts or information referred to is more limited than would be expected at Part II. Priority should be given to rewarding original ideas and interesting arguments, even if this means condoning the occasional lapse on inaccuracy. (See Section 13.9 of the IEB)

In MML Papers Sp4 and Sp9 students may write one or more of their essays in Spanish rather than in English. Examiners are to follow the marking criteria in exactly the same way, irrespective of language chosen. A student will not be advantaged or disadvantaged for writing in either language.

Approved 29 November 2021