



KEY TERMS IN THE LEVELS OF ASSESSMENT

RESEARCH DESIGN	Marks	Marks	Marks
Descriptor	1-2	3-4	5-6
• first	stated	outlined	described
• second	stated	described	explained
• third	lacks detail	allows but few ambiguities	allows reproduction

DATA ANALYSIS	Marks	Marks	Marks
Descriptor	1-2	3-4	5-6
• first	neither clear nor precise	either clear or precise	clear and precise
• second	limited	some omissions	appropriate
• third	major omissions	some omissions	appropriate and accurate

CONCLUSION	Marks	Marks	Marks
Descriptor	1-2	3-4	5-6
• first	stated	described	justified
• second	superficial	described	justified

EVALUATION	Marks	Marks	Marks
Descriptor	1-2	3-4	5-6
• first	states	describes	explains
• second	stated	described	explained

IA Assessment Objectives & Command Terms

Source: Course Guide for first examination 2025

Where command terms are used in the level descriptors of the IA criteria, the terms are to be interpreted as indicated in the “Glossary of command terms” section of the Course Guide. These command terms indicate the depth of treatment required. Command terms used within the descriptors are provided in the following table.

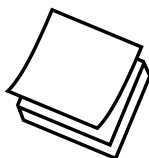
ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE	COMMAND TERM	DESCRIPTOR
AO-1	State	Give a specific name, value or other brief answer without explanation or calculation.
AO-2	Identify	Provide an answer from a number of possibilities.
AO-2	Outline	Give a brief account or summary.
AO-2	Describe	Give a detailed account.
AO-3	Explain	Give a detailed account including reasons or causes.
AO-3	Justify	Give valid reasons or evidence to support an answer or conclusion.

For term definitions, see the Physics Course Guide Appendices: Glossary of Command Terms

AO-1 Demonstrate Knowledge: *Draw, State*

AO-2 Understand and Apply Knowledge: *Annotate, Calculate, Describe, Estimate, Outline*

AO 3 Analyse, Evaluate, and Synthesize: *Analyse, Determine, Discuss, Explain, Predict, Sketch, Suggest*



Referencing and Academic Integrity

Appropriate referencing to sourced information used in the report of the scientific investigation is expected. Omitted or improper referencing will be considered to be academic malpractice.

Students must ensure their assessment work adheres to the IB’s academic integrity policy and that all sources are appropriately referenced. A student’s failure to appropriately acknowledge a source will be investigated by the IB as a potential breach of regulations that may result in a penalty imposed by the IB Final Award Committee. See the “Academic Integrity” section of the Physics Course Guide for full details.

