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Criteria	Poor/Fail	Needs improvement/ Marginal fail	Acceptable/ Pass	Good/ Credit	Very Good/ Distinction	Excellent/ High Distinction
Application of critical thinking – background research on selected topic, logical argumentation, explanation, inferences and assumptions used in firstly constructing; and then critically analysing the discourse. (10 marks)	2 points	4 points	5 points	6 points	7 points	10 points
	Almost no evidence of any background research, poor knowledge of elements of argumentation.	Very little evidence of background research, insufficient knowledge of elements of argumentation.	Some evidence of background research, adequate but superficial knowledge of elements of argumentation.	Satisfactory background research, competent knowledge of elements of argumentation. Accurate proficiency shown in understanding topic and creating & then critically analysing the discourse.	Good background research, in depth knowledge of elements of argumentation.	Excellent background research, in depth, extensive knowledge of elements of argumentation.
	Poor or incorrect proficiency shown in understanding topic, creating a meaningful discourse and then critically analysing the created discourse.	Some inaccuracies or inadequate proficiency shown in understanding topic and creating & then critically analysing the discourse.	Mostly accurate proficiency shown in understanding topic and creating & then critically analysing the discourse.	(6 - 6.9 marks)	Accurate and broad proficiency shown in understanding topic and creating & then critically analysing the discourse.	Superior proficiency shown in understanding topic and constructing & then critically analysing the discourse.
Problem solving – identification of key issues in the selected topic and logically defensible resolutions suggested. (10 marks)	(0 - 2.9 marks)	(3 - 4.9 marks)	(5 - 5.9 marks)		(7 - 7.9 marks)	(8 - 10 marks)
	2 points	4 points	5 points	6 points	7 points	10 points
	Inaccurate or missing justification of solutions and recommendations.	Insufficient or inadequate justification of solutions and recommendations or use of inaccurate sources.	Some justification of solutions and recommendations using limited sources. Argument either not well developed or not well supported by evidence	General justification of solutions and recommendations using different sources.	Accurate justification of solutions and recommendations using a broad variety of sources. Logical argument developed, supported by clear evidence.	Superior justification of solutions and recommendations using a wide variety of sources.
	Argument is missing, poor, or inaccurate with no supporting evidence.	Argument either inadequate or inaccurate or evidence does not support argument.	(5 - 5.9 marks)	Logical argument developed with some supporting evidence.	(7 - 7.9 marks)	Logical argument developed in rigorous fashion, supported by clear evidence.
	(0 - 2.9 marks)	(3 - 4.9 marks)		(6 - 6.9 marks)		(8 - 10 marks)
	2 points	4 points	5 points	6 points	7 points	10 points
Reflection and communication – question answered effectively in terms of overall presentation of the speech and also subsequent critical reflection on the speech demonstrating appropriate use of one or more CT tools. (10 marks)	Question not answered correctly.	Question not answered well.	Question partly answered.	Question adequately answered.	Question fully answered.	Question fully answered.
	Poor presentation.	Presentation awkward or not fluent.	Presentation adequate, but inconsistent fluency.	Reasonably concise and fluent presentation.	Clear, concise and fluent presentation.	Expert clear, concise and fluent presentation, accurately set out.
	Poor use of language.	Use of language needs improvement.	Language usage readable but errors detract from presentation.	Mostly correct use of language.	Correct use of language.	Excellent use of language.
	Structure inadequate or incorrect. Missing or inaccurate critical reflection and analysis of own argument using CT tools. Missing or very poor referencing.	Not structured well or little logic in layout. Some flaws in critical reflection and analysis of own argument using CT tools. Poor referencing.	Some logic in flow and structure. Some accurate points in critical reflection and analysis of own argument using CT tools. Satisfactory referencing with minor inconsistencies.	Some logic in flow and structure. Good critical reflection and analysis of own argument using CT tools. Satisfactory referencing.	Logical flow and structure within word limits.	Logical flow and structure within word limits. Excellent critical reflection and analysis of own argument using CT tools. Good referencing evidencing extensive external research.
	(0 - 2.9 marks)	(3 - 4.9 marks)	(5 - 5.9 marks)	(6 - 6.9 marks)	Strong critical reflection and analysis of own argument using CT tools. Good referencing evidencing considerable external research	(8 - 10 marks)
					(7 - 7.9 marks)	
Overall Score	Fail (N) 0 or more	Fail (N) 9 or more	Pass (P) 15 or more	Credit (C) 18 or more	Distinction (D) 21 or more	High Distinction (HD) 24 or more



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