

General assessment criteria for **problem sets**

(Referencing, citations, bibliography are not required in exam)

Level indicators L3, L4, L5 and L6: stratification of some criteria by level are given where appropriate, indicated by <sup>[x]</sup> and found at bottom of page.)

Mark/ Class	Problem set assessment criteria
80-100% 1st	Outstanding answer, showing deep understanding and complete mastery <sup>[1]</sup> of the subject area by logically combining different ideas to solve an intricate problem. Coherent, succinct presentation of the solution to the problem within the setting of the wider context of the topic, clearly explaining the logic of why and how the problem was tackled. Neat and clear presentation of the steps leading to the correct solution, demonstrating originality and independent thinking.
70-80% 1st	Full, comprehensive answer showing competent understanding <sup>[2]</sup> of the topic by logically combining different ideas to solve an intricate problem. Coherent, succinct presentation of the solution to the problem clearly explaining the logic of why and how the problem was tackled. Neat and clear presentation of the steps leading to the correct solution, demonstrating originality and independent thinking.
60-69% 2(i)	Good, clear answer showing good understanding <sup>[3]</sup> of the subject area. Demonstrating logical thinking by good integration of largely relevant ideas to solve an intricate problem. Adequate presentation of the solution to the problem with some explanation to the logic of why and how the problem was tackled. Indication on of the steps leading to the correct solution, demonstrating some originality and independent thinking.
50-59% 2(ii)	Satisfactory answer showing basic understanding <sup>[4]</sup> of the subject area. Demonstrating a good attempt to solve the problem by using some relevant ideas but may include some misinterpretations. Showing a good effort to tackle the problem by presenting logical steps to solve the problem but with limited originality and independent thinking.
40-49% 3	A limited answer with some misunderstanding <sup>[5]</sup> of the subject area. Demonstrating good effort to solve the problem by presenting a number of attempts but containing irrelevant information and/or some errors.
30-39% Fail	Limited answer to only part of the question showing substantial gaps in understanding <sup>[6]</sup> the subject area. Demonstrating an effort to solve the problem but with substantial errors. There is very little explanation to the logic of the steps used to solve the problem and the arguments are based on largely irrelevant materials.
15-29% Fail	Inadequate answer, misinterpreting the problem and containing substantial errors. There are major faults with the logic of the arguments and the interpretation of the results.
0-14% Fail	Inadequate or wrong answer with substantial errors and no indication of logic in the interpretation of the results.

- [1] L3 - Broad knowledge and understanding of the main concepts related to the subject area of study, shows awareness of different ways of interpretations of the problem.  
L4 - Broad knowledge and understanding of main concepts related to the subject area, shows awareness of ambiguities & limitations of knowledge (and that some areas are open to ongoing debate and reformulation).  
L5 - Detailed knowledge and understanding of well-established material, concepts and theories, shows awareness of the limitation of their knowledge and how this influences any analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge (and where the knowledge base is most/least secure)  
L6 - Detailed systematic knowledge and understanding of the main theories/concepts of the discipline(s) and inter-relationships with other disciplines, shows understanding and knowledge of current problems &/or new insights at forefront of field &/or in specialist areas &/or multiple perspectives possible.
- [2] L3 - Broad knowledge of the main concepts and awareness of related topics and at least one alternative explanation to the problem.  
L4 - Broad knowledge of the main concepts and some awareness of ambiguities and some alternative explanations to the problem.  
L5 - Detailed knowledge of well-established theories/concepts and clear understanding of the limitations of knowledge and alternative solutions.  
L6 - Detailed and systematic knowledge of the main theories/concepts and analysis of the problem in the wider context of the subject area.
- [3] L3 - Reasonable knowledge of the general concepts and awareness of related topics.  
L4 - Comprehensive knowledge of the main concepts and limited awareness of ambiguities and alternative theories.  
L5 - Good knowledge of the main concepts and some understanding of the limitations of knowledge and alternative solutions.  
L6 - Detailed knowledge of the main theories and awareness of ambiguities and alternative theories.
- [4] L3 - Knowledge of some concepts related to the problem.  
L4 - Adequate knowledge of some of the main concepts and awareness of related theories.  
L5 - Good knowledge of the main concepts and limited understanding of alternative solutions and the wider context.  
L6 - Good knowledge of the main concepts and some awareness of related theories and limitations.
- [5] L3 - Inadequate knowledge of the concepts and some misinterpretation of ideas.  
L4 - Limited knowledge of major concepts but without awareness of related theories.  
L5 - Some knowledge of the major concepts and misunderstanding of related theories.  
L6 - Some knowledge of the major concepts and/or good knowledge of related topics.