

The moderator and the teacher tended to agree within 1 level for most criteria. However, in several cases, there were decreases in multiple criteria which meant a total difference of several marks total. In these cases, the teacher was more generous than the moderator felt was warranted. It is hoped that the comments below will help guide assessment of future candidates.

#### **PE**

The moderator was able to support the teachers' assessment of this criterion.

#### **EX**

This was well assessed. Candidates should take care to be consistent in values.

When writing the method, this needs to reflect what was done. The method should be clear enough to be followed by someone else.

#### **A**

This criterion was marked too leniently across all levels. Processing including a mean, standard deviation and a graph is what is expected for the middle mark band. Further tests, such as those for correlation and/or significance, are expected at the upper level. Taking the mean of means is not appropriate.

#### **EV**

To claim significant differences or correlation between variables, an appropriate statistical test needs to be done.

Care must be taken with the scientific justification to ensure the biology is correct. Extension and strengths need to be considered.

#### **C**

It was good to see that all candidates gave dates websites were accessed in their bibliographies. However, the background citations were not always done correctly, which did affect C but which also detracted from EX. Facts and figures, diagrams, quotes, that are not common knowledge or part of the standard biology course need to be cited. Information that all candidates should know do not need citations. Candidates often were repetitive and included irrelevant material that detracted from the report.

Decimal places need to be consistent between the data collected and data processed. Error bars need to be defined when used on a graph.

#### **Comments on suitability of the work**

The work done was suitable for assessment of the Biology IA project and the extensive comments by the teacher were useful for moderation.