

Task 2: What examiners want

1. Many students simply did not read the instructions at the start of the exam paper. Some answered fewer than required, and some even answered more!

Some failed to answer the required number from each section and others missed out elements of a multi-part question.

2. Students did not read the questions carefully enough. A question in a 20th Century history paper asking for causes of the outbreak of World War I prompted answers from some candidates relating to World War II!

3. Students did not manage their time effectively which meant that many did not finish. Others wrote unnecessarily long answers to some questions and only a few lines for the final ones because they ran out of time

5. Students did not plan their answers. They produced an uncoordinated mass of prose which jumped around from point to point with no logical thread running through the answer which made it very difficult to mark.

4. Students did not take careful account of the verb in the question which told them what to do e.g. *assess, compare, describe, argue, list*, etc. Instead, they regurgitated all they could think of about the topic involved.

6. Judgements and viewpoints were not supported by clear evidence. Lack of objectivity was often evident with wild generalisations and personal prejudices included.

<u>Quote number</u>	<u>Problem</u>	<u>How to address</u>
<u>1</u>		
<u>2</u>		
<u>3</u>		
<u>4</u>		
<u>5</u>		
<u>6</u>		