**IB History – Paper 2 Mark Scheme**

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| Grade | Focus on the question | Structure | knowledge | Relevant examples and effective links | Critical Analysis and conclusion | Perspectives |
| 15-13 | Responses are clearly focused, showing a high degree of awareness of the demands and implications of the question. | Responses are well structured and effectively organized. | Knowledge of the world history topic is accurate and relevant. Events are placed in their historical context, and there is a clear understanding of historical concepts.  | The examples that the student chooses to discuss are appropriate and relevant, and are used effectively to support the analysis/evaluation. The response makes effective links and/or comparisons (as appropriate to the question).  | The response contains clear and coherent critical analysis. All, or nearly all, of the main points are substantiated, and the response argues to a consistent conclusion. | There is evaluation of different perspectives, and this evaluation is integrated effectively into the answer. |
| 10-12 | The demands of the question are understood and addressed. | Responses are generally well structured and organized, although there is some repetition or lack of clarity in places. | Knowledge of the world history topic is mostly accurate and relevant. Events are placed in their historical context, and there is some understanding of historical concepts.  | The examples that the student chooses to discuss are appropriate and relevant, and are used to support the analysis/evaluation. The response makes effective links and/or comparisons (as appropriate to the question).  | The response contains critical analysis, which is mainly clear and coherent. Most of the main points are substantiated and the response argues to a consistent conclusion. | There is some awareness and evaluation of different perspectives. |
| 7-9 | The response indicates an understanding of the demands of the question, but these demands are only partially addressed. | There is an attempt to follow a structured approach. | Knowledge of the world history topic is mostly accurate and relevant. Events are generally placed in their historical context.  | The examples that the student chooses to discuss are appropriate and relevant. The response makes links and/or comparisons (as appropriate to the question). | The response moves beyond description to include some analysis or critical commentary, but this is not sustained. | Perspectives are named but not understood or used effectively. |
| 4-6 | The response indicates some understanding of the demands of the question. | While there may be an attempt to follow a structured approach, the response lacks clarity and coherence. | Knowledge of the world history topic is demonstrated, but lacks accuracy and relevance. There is a superficial understanding of historical context.  | The student identifies specific examples to discuss, but these examples are vague or lack relevance.  | There is some limited analysis, but the response is primarily narrative/ descriptive in nature rather than analytical. | There is no reference to historical perspectives. |
| 1-3 | There is little understanding of the demands of the question. | The response is poorly structured or, where there is a recognizable essay structure, there is minimal focus on the task. | Little knowledge of the world history topic is present. | The student identifies examples to discuss, but these examples are factually incorrect, irrelevant or vague.  | The response contains little or no critical analysis. The response may consist mostly of generalizations and poorly substantiated assertions. | There is no reference to historical perspectives. |
| 0 | Answers do not reach a standard described by the descriptors below. |