

Script Annotation FAQs

What have I received?

We are pleased to enclose a copy of the script you requested – either as part of an access to scripts request or as part of an enquiry about results. You may notice, however, that this script looks different from ones you have received in the past.

The enclosed script has been marked online by an OCR assessor rather than marked by hand. Scripts marked in this way may have been assessed by a number of different assessors, at different stages during the assessment window. This means that there will probably be some variation in the nature and use of annotation.

What is the annotation for?

Although we recognise that annotation is helpful in providing feedback on the candidate's script, it is primarily designed for internal use within the assessment process. Annotation is provided for the benefit of Senior Examiners responsible for monitoring the assessment.

What will be annotated?

For each question or part question, there will be an indication of the mark awarded, but ticks, crosses or other annotation may or may not be included depending on the nature of the question and the instructions given by the Principal Examiner.

Assessors are encouraged to annotate only where the annotation clarifies more complex assessment decisions.

General straightforward objective questions, with a small number of marks available, are unlikely to be annotated as the application of the mark scheme is self-evident. Where marks are awarded on a more complex 'level of response' or 'points-based' mark scheme, annotation may be more appropriate.

Assessors are encouraged to annotate more fully during their initial marking to assist Senior Examiners in their checking and to allow them to confirm the assessor is applying the mark scheme appropriately. Once the assessor has been approved to mark, extensive annotation is not normally required and can hamper the marking process.

If the original script was used as a practice or example script, or as a script against which other assessors were standardised, there may be additional comments, which are intended to advise OCR assessors only.

A lack of annotation is not indicative of the assessment judgements reached, nor does it show that the response has not been fully considered by the assessor.