Marking criteria for Advanced Diploma examinations

Mark	KNOWLEDGE	APPLICATION	EVALUATION
100	**Distinction** - To get 100 the candidate needs to show that they have fully understood the points in question. They are able to demonstrate knowledge by reference to recognised key substantiating material.	**Distinction** - To get 100 the answer must be as if a piece of work had been produced as learning material and could be used as a source of reference.	**Distinction** - To get 100 the *whole answer* should have a critical edge.
85	**Distinction** - To get 85 the candidate will also use concepts & vocabulary with skill and confidence. Clearly demonstrate the candidate knows the concept/s and is able to describe them fully and accurately. Shows a full understanding of the principles and practices employed.	**Distinction** - to get 85, excellent explanation of all aspects of all theories, principles and practices employed relevant to the question. Examples linked to all aspects of all theories and principles under question used and links well described. (This cannot be achieved without good explanation of theory).	**Distinction** - To get 85, as for 75 & also equally well argued in relation to all theory/-ies, principles and practices. Clear assessment of strengths & weaknesses of the theory/-ies principles and practices and supported by well-reasoned arguments All theories, principles and practices considered one may be in more depth than the other, where appropriate.
75	**Distinction** - Knowledge clearly stated and accurate, even if not all elements are described equally fully. Shows good understanding of the principles where appropriate	**Distinction** - Strong links to the principles under question	**Distinction** - Develops an argument to support the proposed action. Includes discussion of the strengths & weaknesses of proposed actions.
60	**Pass** - Knowledge is broadly adequate but in parts maybe superficial, some minor errors. Wording/ expression may not be fully articulated in places; e.g. uses technical language but may not show full and complete understanding	**Pass** - Clear links to principles. Some strong, some weak links. For example where examples are requested the candidate is able to give some strong examples but also uses spurious examples.	**Pass** - Able to discuss principles and put rational explanations across i.e. for and against. Likely to be able to describe strengths or weaknesses in the arguments. Provides descriptions of application.
50	**Fail** - Choice of case law, statutes or other theories may be questionable. Some evidence of knowledge of topic in question. Knowledge is generalised, not complete, contains errors. Displays limited knowledge.	**Fail** - Principle described but minimal application to theory Generalised statements but without clear or explicit links to their experience and practical application.	**Fail** - Unable to make any reasoned evaluation. No evidence of understanding why the principle is as it is.
20	**Fail** - Case law, statutes, theories used are not appropriate. Very little knowledge of theory or practice displayed.	**Fail** - Whilst principle is explained there is no application of the theory.	**Fail** - Contains minimal judgment only.
0	**Fail** - A mark of zero is only awarded where there is no knowledge or understanding of any of the aspects raised in the question.	**Fail** - You should only award zero if there is no application at all	**Fail** - You should only award zero, if there is no evaluation at all