

ESS IA Rubric

A: Research question and inquiry	B: Strategy	C: Method	D: Treatment of data	E: Analysis and conclusion	F: Evaluation
4 marks	4 marks	4 marks	6 marks	6 marks	6 marks

Source: IB ESS Guide

ESS Grade Weightings

Standard level

Duration: 10 hours

Weighting: 25%

Higher level

Duration: 10 hours

Weighting: 20%

The individual investigation

The maximum overall word count for the report is 3,000 words.

The following are not included in the word count.

- Charts and diagrams
- Data tables
- Equations, formulae and calculations
- Citations/references (whether parenthetical, numbered, footnotes or endnotes)
- Bibliography
- Headers

Internal assessment criteria

Criterion A: Research question and inquiry

This criterion assesses the extent to which the student establishes and explores an environmental issue (either local or global) for an investigation and develops this issue to state a relevant and focused research question. (Maximum 4 marks)

Criterion B: Strategy

This criterion assesses the extent to which students understand how tensions between perspectives can impact the environmental or societal outcomes of a strategy that addresses an issue central to the student's investigation. (Maximum 4 marks)

Criterion C: Method

This criterion assesses the extent to which the student has developed an appropriate and repeatable method to collect data that is relevant to the research question. The data could be primary or secondary, qualitative or quantitative. (Maximum 4 marks)

Internal assessment criteria

Criterion D: Treatment of data

This criterion assesses the extent to which the student has effectively communicated and processed the data in ways that are relevant to the research question. The student should utilize techniques associated with the appropriate experimental or social science method of inquiry. (Maximum 6 marks)

Criterion E: Analysis and conclusion

This criterion assesses the extent to which the student has interpreted the data in ways that are relevant to the research question. The patterns in the data are highlighted and correctly interpreted to reach a valid conclusion. (Maximum 6 marks)

Criterion F: Evaluation

This criterion assesses the extent to which the student carries out an evaluation of the investigation. (Maximum 6 marks)