

# LSESU ECONOMICS ESSAY COMPETITION



## RUBRIC



### Distinction

(70-100)

- Offers a rigorous, original argument informed by advanced economic theory and evidence.
- Shows excellent structure and clarity, with each section logically building on the previous.
- Critically engages with competing views and policy trade-offs.
- Demonstrates wide reading and proper referencing (e.g., peer-reviewed articles, institutional reports).
- Sophisticated use of data or case studies.
- Strong integration of interdisciplinary insights (where relevant).
- Clearly answers the question posed

### High Commendation

(55-69)

- Presents a coherent and mostly well-structured argument.
- Applies relevant economic concepts with reasonable accuracy.
- Engages with some empirical or historical examples.
- Displays effort at critical engagement, though limited in depth or scope.
- Mostly accurate referencing, though with some inconsistency.
- Some minor misinterpretations or superficial coverage of certain key aspects

### Commendation

(40-54)

- Attempts to engage with the question, though may deviate slightly or show limited structure.
- Uses economic terms or data, but not always effectively or accurately.
- Makes a reasonable but underdeveloped argument.
- An attempt at referencing correctly.
- Lacks depth in critical analysis or fails to engage with counterarguments.
- Descriptive rather than analytical in tone.

### Participation

(<40)

- Fails to address the question directly or substantially.
- Contains major factual or conceptual errors.
- Lacks economic reasoning or misuses key terms.
- No clear structure or argument.
- References are missing, incorrect, or not credible.
- Language may be unclear or disjointed.



# LSESU ECONOMICS ESSAY COMPETITION GRADING SYSTEM

<b>CRITERIA</b>	<b>MARKS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
Argument and Originality	/25	Is the argument well-articulated, logically consistent, and innovative? Does it go beyond textbook answers and provide original insight?
Use of Economic Theory	/20	Are relevant economic models, frameworks, or concepts used correctly and effectively to support the argument?
Evidence and Examples	/15	Are claims supported by empirical studies, historical examples, case studies, or credible data?
Critical Analysis	/15	Is there engagement with opposing views, trade-offs, limitations, or alternative explanations? Are counterarguments addressed thoughtfully?
Structure and Clarity	/10	Is the essay clearly structured with logical flow? Are the introduction and conclusion effective? Is the language precise?
Referencing and Sources	/10	Are high-quality sources used (academic, institutional)? Are references cited correctly and consistently?
Relevance of Answer to Question	/5	Does the essay stay on topic and directly answer the question asked?