

Extended essay: Example commentary		
DP subject: (subject-focused essay)	Chemistry	
DP subjects: (interdisciplinary essay)		Interdisciplinary framework:
Research question:	How will changing the temperature and the time of the cold brewing process affect the tea polyphenol concentration in green tea water?	
Assessment details		
Criterion	Mark awarded	Commentary
A: Framework for the essay [Maximum possible mark: 6]	5	The research question is relevant to the topic of investigation, clearly written—though some further precision could be shown—and focused in relation to the scope of the essay. (5 marks) Research methods that are suitable for the research question are explained and applied effectively. (5–6 marks) Structural conventions generally support aspects of the communication of the research, with flaws. Not all the information in the introduction is relevant to the terms of the research question, and there is information presented in tables. Not all images included are essential (such as the Büchner funnel) and materials ideally belong in the appendix. (4 marks)
B: Knowledge and understanding [Maximum possible mark: 6]	4	Relevant research materials are used to establish some knowledge of the subject matter. However, some further connection between theory and findings is desirable. (4 marks) Relevant terminology is used accurately to demonstrate understanding of the subject matter. (4 marks) Relevant concepts are explained and used with partial effectiveness to demonstrate understanding of the subject matter. (4 marks)
C: Analysis and line of argument [Maximum possible mark: 6]	5	The essay includes analysis that has some effectiveness and produces some appropriate findings. There is a good use of graphs, but also a lot of description that does not always stress the chemical factors. (4 marks) There is a line of argument that connects the research question, findings and conclusions. (6 marks)
D: Discussion and evaluation [Maximum possible mark: 8]	5	There is a balanced discussion of the significance of the findings, which is supported by appropriate evidence. There is an attempt to compare findings with literature values. (5–6 marks) There is an evaluation of the effectiveness of the essay, and relevant procedural strengths and limitations are described. (5 marks)

Criterion	Mark awarded	Commentary
E: Reflection [Maximum possible mark: 4]	3	Reflection on the extended essay learning experience has some evaluative approach and includes specific examples. (3 marks) There is evidence of growth and transfer of learning throughout the reflection. (3 marks)
Total marks awarded	22/30	An example of how self-motivation for a topic leads to an investigation. While simple, the topic allows for the design and performance of an experiment, and the acquisition of practical and writing skills.