

UG ID:		BAOS Essay Marking Criteria					
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Just passing	Just failing	Clear fail	Mark
Outline of the clinical question/issue 20 marks	Clearly and succinctly outlines the clinical question/issue. Comprehensive, clear, relevant and yet concise.	A very good outline of the clinical question/issue. Understanding evident with comprehensive and clear relevance.	A good outline of the clinical question/issue. Understanding evident with clear relevance.	A basic outline of the clinical question/issue. Limited understanding but some relevance	A poor attempt to outline the clinical question/issue. With very limited understanding and relevance.	A complete inability to effectively understand and identify the clinical question/issue. Completely misses the point.	/20
Content, evidence of research and discussion 40 marks	Evidence of excellent researching a range of high quality, most relevant and current sources. It is clear the sources are fully understood and appropriately contextualised. Able to eloquently use evidence to substantively support arguments made. Reference to source materials entirely appropriate and the ability to fluently weave these in to enhance the discussion / arguments. Publishable in current form.	Evidence of very good researching an appropriate range of relevant and current sources. It is clear that there is a very good working understanding of the evidence, and this is appropriately contextualised. Able to use evidence to support arguments made. Reference to relevant sources to strengthen the discussion / arguments.	Evidence of researching a range of sources, most of which are relevant and mostly supportive of the discussion. References are understood and used appropriately. Key sources cited and used to support the discussion / arguments.	Evidence of some researching a reasonable range of sources, not all of which are relevant or supportive of discussion and/or some key sources may be omitted. Some misunderstanding or use out of context. Uses little evidence to defend arguments made. Some lack of balance and/or one sided.	Evidence of limited research and/or failure to refer to or incorporate these into the discussion. Inclusion of irrelevant or poor quality sources. Misunderstanding or misquoting from sources. Limited or inappropriate use of evidence to defend statements made. May contradict self in discussion.	Very poor research with key sources entirely absent. Insufficient reference materials used to support range of topic. Failure to incorporate any research into discussion and/or incorporation of irrelevant sources. No evidence used in defence of arguments or evidence does not support argument at all. Failure to present a coherent argument	/40
Summary, conclusions and recommendations 20 marks	An excellent, persuasive and logical summary with no contradictions. No new material introduced. Follows logically on from discussion. Conclusion is balanced and eloquent.	A clear persuasive and logical summary of the argument with no new material introduced. Conclusion relates well to discussion and is balanced.	A clear and logical summary of the argument with no new material introduced. Conclusion defensible and related to discussion.	A basic summary attempting to pull together some arguments to form a reasonably sensible conclusion. May introduce new ideas or evidence.	Vague summary which fails to bring in important points from the discussion and/or fails to define a conclusion. May introduce new ideas or evidence.	Completely inadequate. No conclusion or conclusion with no foundation and not supporting or supported by main discussion.	/20
Presentation 20 marks	Word count accurately stated, logical order, excellent use of figures/ tables where appropriate. Correct citation and referencing style. Excellent grammar and structure. Publishable in format and structure.	Word count accurately stated, proficient use figures/tables where apt. Correct citation and referencing style. Very good grammar and structure.	Word count accurately stated, figures/ tables appropriately used. Correct citation and referencing style. Minor grammatical errors. Good structure.	Word count accurately stated, any use of figures/ tables mostly appropriate. Minor errors in citation and referencing style. Minor grammatical errors. Sound structure.	Word count accurately stated, poor use of figures/ tables if used. Significant errors in citation and referencing style. Substantial grammatical errors. Poorly structured.	Word count inaccurately stated and/or dramatically under or over the limit. Illogical order, incorrect and/or inappropriate use of figures/ tables. Incorrect citation and referencing style. Very poor grammar / structure.	/20
General feedback:							Total /100

- Entrants must be in the **penultimate/final year of study**
- It is not mandatory for entrants to be members of BAOS, but they are welcome to join the society if they wish
- Include **full name, Dental School, contact email at start of essay**
- Word limit set to **1500 (+/- 200 words)** EXCLUDING references and words included in tables and figures. **Stated at the end of the essay before references.**
- **Vancouver** referencing style
- Reference numbers to a **maximum of 20**
- Submitted in **Word format** (not PDF) using Arial font size 12 with double spacing
- **All submissions should be made to BAOS office via email (mail@BAOS.org.uk)**
- **The deadline for submission is 17:00 on the date specified on the website.**
- Essays submitted will be subject to satisfactory plagiarism checks.
- Essays not compliant with the above will automatically fail and/or be ineligible for the national prize.