

# What are markers looking for?



- ✓ The **question** is answered
- ✓ Reasoned **argument** (opinion) and **supporting evidence** (research which backs up your opinion)
- ✓ Information is **relevant** and you can show an ability to focus on a particular area and sift relevant information
- ✓ Proper **structure** which relates to question asked and there is logical organisation related to the argument
- ✓ Some **analysis** of well organised thoughts which are clearly expressed i.e. analyse and comment, not just repeat what is read
- ✓ **Documented** evidence both in the text (the body of your assignment) and the reference list
- ✓ **Clear** and well written (relatively error free) assignment
- ✓ English is in clear, formal or **academic** writing style
- ✓ **Neat** presentation
- ✓ Evidence of **wide reading**

## Common faults

- ✗ Missing the point of the question
- ✗ Failure to deal with part of a question, or limited coverage of an important issue
- ✗ Insufficient supporting evidence
- ✗ Irrelevant material
- ✗ Conflicting ideas, or evidence poorly explained
- ✗ Plagiarism
- ✗ Heavy dependence on quotes (the 'cut and paste' essay)