

## **Title: Which of the two superpowers, US and USSR, caused the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962?**

### **Criterion A: 5 marks**

An appropriate question for the investigation has been stated. The two sources chosen are appropriate for this investigation. The first one is a primary source – the biography/autobiography of Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr, one of the close advisers to the US President John F. Kennedy – “*A thousand days*” published in 1965. The second one is a secondary source – a book focused on the Cuban Missile Crisis written by two historians; Russian historian Aleksandr Fusenko and American-Canadian historian Timothy Naftali – “*One Hell of a Gamble*” published in 1997. The candidate gives an implicit explanation to the relevance of these sources for the investigation. Both value and limitations of the sources origin and purpose has been discussed.

### **Criterion B: 9 marks**

A very informative background of the specific events between the two superpowers USA and USSR 1959-1962. I only miss a short reflection about the Cold War as a background point to the events described. Two different views were presented in the investigation. This is done in a clear and organized way. The candidate also reflects – comments on the two presented views which shows an analytical ambition. It would have been good if these reflections would have been added to a more developed discussion/analysis where the Cold War theories were mentioned (and used). This would have added a better awareness of the different perspectives. Right now, the investigation is mostly narrative with some critical comments. Quite a few quotes – some of these quotes should have been paraphrased.

### **Criterion C: 3 marks**

Good reflections of the candidates own work with some examples – and also connected to the way historians work. There could have been a bit more about the methods and the problems professional historians runs into when writing a similar investigation. This reflection is a bit too self-centered.

## **Total: 17 marks**