

## **Title: To What Extent Was the Cultural Revolution Necessary for Mao's Political Survival?**

### **Criterion A: 3 marks**

An appropriate question for the investigation has been stated. The candidate has also identified and selected two relevant sources. The first one is a contemporary primary source - a speech held in 1966 (October 24<sup>th</sup>) by the Chinese Communist leader Mao Zedong (*The Talk at the Report Meeting*) and the other is a non-contemporary source written by a British historian – Michael Lynch (*The People's Republic of China 1949-76*) in 2011. The relevance of the choice of sources is obvious but could have been explained better. There was a discussion about the value and limitations of each one of the two sources, but this evaluation lacks some aspects.

### **Criterion B: 8 marks**

The structure of the investigation is in general clear but a few of the paragraphs could be better organized. The response is mostly narrative. Some reflections and critical comments exist but the candidate does not use the sources to compare and contrast the different opinions in a developed discussion. If that had been done we would have been able to better detect the different perspectives of the historians. In the end of this section, we get a summary based on the previous arguments – not an answer based on an analytical evaluation of different perspectives.

### **Criterion C: 1 mark**

The reflection is very personal and does not cover some of the stated criteria – a clear presentation of the methods used by historians and the problems – challenges they face. This reflection concentrates on one aspect – “*descriptive words*”.

**Total: 12 marks**