

Title: To what extent was the Holodomor famine (1932-1933) in the Ukrainian SSR caused by the Soviet Union's legal measures to enforce grain collection?

Criterion A: 5 marks

A focused and relevant question of the investigation has been stated. Two different kinds of sources were chosen for evaluation; one contemporary primary source – “*Resolution of the CC AUCP(B) and CPC USSR on grain procurements in Ukraine*” officially by the USSR General Secretary Joseph Stalin and the USSR Chairman Vyachelsav Molotov and one non-contemporary secondary source – the book “*Fraud, Famine, and Fascism*” written by journalist Douglas Tottle and published in 1987. The candidate explains well why these sources were relevant for the investigation. The analysis and evaluation of the two sources could have been a bit more developed.

Criterion B: 13 marks

The investigation presents several important arguments and gives detailed evidence to support these arguments. There is a logic development (a coherent and effectively organized investigation) that focus well on the stated question. Each of the examined arguments is discussed, analyzed, and added to a continuing debate that leads to a conclusion. The candidate is also concerned about showing different perspectives – one pro-USSR perspective which is compared with a non-pro-USSR view. It's an academic mature investigation, unusual at this educational level. Some improvement could be made – cut some quotes, put some of the source references in footnotes, try to make the arguments/statements even more clear, but in general – this is a well-written interesting investigation.

Criterion C: 3 marks

The reflection focuses and draw examples of the investigation. The candidate also discusses what problems a scholar, a professional historian, would run into when researching the Ukrainian famine 1932-33. A clear connection between the professional historian and the candidate's work has been done. It's just the very first part of this reflection that leaves the reader with some questions – what about the comparison between science and history? The candidate does not complete that part.

Total: 21 marks