

Exemplar 3: History

REFLECTIONS ON PLANNING AND PROGRESS

Supervisor name										
Candidate session number	0	0								
Candidate name										
School number			0	0						
School name										
Examination session (May or November)					Year					

Candidate: From May 2018, please refer to the Extended essay student guide when completing this form. This form is to be completed by the candidate during the course and completion of their EE. This document records reflections on your planning and progress, and the nature of your discussions with your supervisor. You must undertake three formal reflection sessions with your supervisor: the first formal reflection session should focus on your initial ideas and how you plan to undertake your research; the interim reflection session is once a significant amount of your research has been completed; and the final session will be in the form of a viva voce once you have completed and handed in your EE. This document acts as a record in supporting the authenticity of your work.

The completion of this form is a mandatory requirement of the EE for first assessment May 2018. It must be submitted together with the completed EE for assessment under criterion E.

Supervisor: You must have at least three reflection sessions with each candidate, one early on in the process, an interim meeting and then the final viva voce. Other sessions are permitted but do not need to be recorded on this sheet. After each session candidates must record their reflections and as the supervisor you must sign and date this form.

Reflections on planning and progress	Candidate comments	Date	Supervisor signature
First reflection session	I knew from the outset that I definitely wanted to research Lebanese history, because I am from Lebanon and I think having a personal connection is unique. In our first meeting I wanted to know how to approach the civil war—I asked my supervisor what aspects to focus on, and what the time frame should be (1975—?). We decided on discussing the causes of the war, because there is the most room for analysis here. Also, if only the causes are discussed, the essay does not need to go into an in-depth investigation of the actual war. The discussion gave me a better sense of direction for my research.		
Interim reflection	I have been finding it very difficult to find monographs with drastically different viewpoints, so my supervisor suggested a few sources.		

	Outside of historiography, I have managed to find a lot of information on details of events leading up to the civil war. With help from my supervisor, I have been able to successfully finish my research and begin writing. I've learned that it is important for this essay not to simply be informative, and this has made me realize how significant historiography is. My supervisor thinks I need to find historians with conflicting viewpoints in order to successfully achieve a balanced argument.		
Final reflection: viva voce	I think my initial plan for the EE was maintained throughout both the research process and the actual writing process. I managed to accomplish a lot with the help of my supervisor and I learned a lot about organization and how important it is to be diligent when crafting an essay like this.		

Supervisor's comments:

The candidate's connection with her topic is of a rather personal nature; in fact, one would be hard-pressed to identify an example that would hit harder to home. The student is Lebanese, and was surprised by how she was able to maintain an objective distance from this topic, despite her having lived in Lebanon. One difficult aspect involving the research process was getting started in terms of laying the foundation and "nailing down" historians. However, once X got started, and after finding several good sources, everything moved forward smoothly. Another challenge involved time management and the writing and rewriting of the essay. In general, the student spent most of her time establishing how various religious groups in Lebanon viewed each other and, in relation to this, how to separate opinions from facts (since a lot of what is available is biased information).

Overall, in the candidate's assessment, the EE was very much worth it. The main future application and benefit of having gone through said process is an awareness of managing one's time well by "getting a head start", "spacing out time wisely" and "using any spare time available". This, too, is the advice she would pass on to future EE candidates: "get a head start during the summer, using any spare time available to you." Her final piece of advice: "make your topic personal!"

Candidate's declaration

This declaration must be signed by the candidate; otherwise a grade may not be issued.

The extended essay I am submitting is my own work (apart from guidance allowed by the International Baccalaureate).

I have acknowledged each use of the words, graphics or ideas of another person, whether written, oral or visual.

I am aware that the word limit for all extended essays is 4,000 words and that examiners are not required to read beyond this limit.

This is the final version of my extended essay.

Candidate's signature	Date

Supervisor's declaration

This declaration must be signed by the supervisor; otherwise a grade may not be issued.

I have read the final version of the extended essay that will be submitted to the examiner.

To the best of my knowledge, the extended essay is the authentic work of the candidate.

I spent hours with the candidate discussing the progress of the extended essay.

Supervisor's signature	Date
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