## ACS Essay Overall Mark Guidelines

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Mark Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| 90-100%    | Significant contribution to field  
Evidence of considerable extra-curricular reading and original interpretation  
Challenging goals, and substantial deliverables, without much help from supervisor  
Close to faultless in execution and write-up |
| 80-89%     | Contribution to field  
Evidence of extra-curricular academic reading, critical thought and original interpretation  
Only very minor faults in execution, depth of understanding or write-up  
Challenging project/essay subject and substantial deliverables |
| 75-79%     | Very well written report with logical structure  
Demonstration of critical thought, understanding and extra-curricular reading  
Some minor faults in execution or understanding  
Substantial deliverables/findings |
| 70-74%     | Clearly written with a logical structure  
Evidence of understanding, and at least some evidence of extra-reading and critical thought  
May contain some ambiguities or faults  
Achievement not substantial enough to warrant top mark, but execution basically good |
| 60-69%     | Adequately written, but lacking clarity or detail in places, or containing irrelevant material  
Mostly demonstrates understanding, but with occasional mistakes of judgment  
Project/essay subject not particularly ambitious, or not entirely completed  
Little evidence of extracurricular reading or original thought |
| 50-59%     | Write up is somewhat incoherent, rushed, contains important omissions, or irrelevant material  
Some serious flaws in understanding  
Actual achievements not very substantial  
Very little evidence of much extra-curricular reading or original thought |
| 40-49%     | Topic has not been handled at all  
Write up is poor, unstructured, some parts missing.  
Concrete achievements very few, project goals not achieved  
Little evidence of understanding, many inconsistencies and flaws |
| 30-39%     | All aspects of the essay have been handled badly  
Write up is substantially absent, incomprehensible or wrong  
Actual achievements may be very few or not apparent.  
Little evidence of understanding, but at least mention of most of the relevant ideas. |
| 20-29%     | Almost total failure to engage with essay subject  
Write up substantially absent, incomprehensible or wrong  
No concrete achievements apparent  
Some mention of relevant terms, many relevant facts entirely missing |
| 0-19%      | No evidence of any understanding  
Mention of some relevant terms  
Marks given for presentation of report  
Complete ignorance |