



# International<sup>®</sup> Baccalaureate

## **Assessment Operations**

**Carolyn Adams**

March 2010

## What's new?

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1. E-marking
2. E-coursework
3. Management of internal disputes
4. EURs – new Category 3 service
5. Committee on academic honesty
6. Heads' Assessment newsletter
7. Examiners' newsletter
8. Examiner recruitment criteria
9. School delegation of special needs arrangements

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WorkList Overview Marking 6326145 Close

Previous Response Next Response

BOD GM IRRL REP VG 2 1 1

P2 P3 P4 P5 P6 P7 P8

(1) When the sun shines on the ocean, some of the water evaporates ✓ into steam. This steam rises into the atmosphere where it condenses to become ✓ clouds. There are lots of different types of clouds, such as stratus and cumulonimbus.

Eventually, the clouds turn back into rain, ✗ which falls back down to earth.

Rainwater then either soaks into the ground to be absorbed by plants and trees, or goes through drains and streams to eventually be returned to rivers and then to the sea, where the cycle begins again. VG

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Item: Q1  
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Component 5AF1/02, Question Paper 5AF1, Geography Unit 1 : Marking Mode

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# Arrangements for an internal school appeals procedure about IB assessment issues

## 1 Background and rationale

- Disputes most often arise over internally assessed marks, access to EUR services or Access arrangements, issue of results when school fees are unpaid
- Currently 'lose/lose' situation for the IB
- A mechanism for candidates to appeal against an assessment issue within their schools without involving the IB in the appeal
- These arrangements are introduced in the interests of natural justice

## 2 Procedure

Schools offering IB examinations should ensure that they have in place:

- a formal, codified procedure for handling disputes when a candidate or carer disagrees with a decision by the school
- the procedures should be published and made widely available and accessible to all candidates

**Such a process will normally be required only when all other mechanisms within the school (for example, discussion between candidate and the Head or Coordinator) has failed to resolve the matter. It will be the final stage in the normal process of considering and resolving disputes. It is expected that it will be used only in exceptional circumstances.**

## Re-moderation of coursework (new Category 3 service)

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- Schools can request a senior moderator to re-mark the sample on which original moderation decided
- Senior moderator will either confirm statistical adjustment, revise it or agree to the school marks
- Grades can go up or down (fairness principle)

Issue – will schools be willing to risk candidate grades going down?

### Possible solutions

- Schools gain permission of all candidates before submitting a request
- Application of tolerances to grade changes – for example 1% above or below grade boundary before grade changes made?
- Other suggestions?

## New academic honesty committee

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### Why?

- Previously all cases of alleged malpractice have been overseen by the Final Awards Committee
- FAC comprises Chief Examiners and senior staff
- The numbers of cases now requires two full days to manage
- Distracts the FAC from its essential work in overseeing standards

### What's involved in the AHC?

- AHC comprises senior examiners, staff and school representatives
- Attendance at 2-day meeting for the May session (1/2 July) and 1-day meeting for November session (2 January)
- 8 school representatives required (4 are reserves)
- Bilingual English/Spanish speakers especially useful

# Assessment Newsletter

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## Assessment Newsletter

March 2010

### Welcome to the first IB assessment newsletter

Dear Head of School,  
This biannual newsletter aims to explain new developments and progress made in the assessment of the IB Middle Years Programme and the IB Diploma Programme. It is designed for ease of access to information, and complements information already communicated to all IB coordinators. Please send this newsletter to your IB coordinator if you think it would be of interest.

It is our intention that the newsletter will keep you informed about our use of technology in IB assessment as well as our work to develop an assessment strategy that focuses on quality and innovation. In this edition we are delighted to report on the successful introduction of e-marking in the November 2009 session. We hope you will find this newsletter valuable, informative and enjoyable and we welcome any comments or queries you may have on this or any other areas of IB assessment.

**Carolyn Adams, Assessment Operations Director (left) and Jacqueline Harris, Assessment Director (right)**



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## School delegation of special needs arrangements

### Special arrangements - 5 year growth May & November sessions

