

How to: conclusions

08 December 2022 12:22

Daily Review

From N5 Modern Studies - can you identify **three** things that you remember about conclusions questions?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Learning Intention

- We are learning how to answer the conclusions question in Higher Modern Studies.

Success Criteria

- ☐ I can successfully answer an SQA Higher Modern Studies conclusion question.

New Material

Task 1: What is a conclusion?

Read the information below and attempt the tasks that follow.

The conclusion question is the last of the three source questions you need to know for Paper Two of the Higher Modern Studies exam. It is worth 10 marks and you will get 25 minutes to complete it.

Conclusion: *a judgement or decision reached by reasoning*

We look for an informed conclusion that uses evidence to back up the point made. Let's imagine we are looking at the issue of reality TV.

Conclusion: *"No one watches reality TV anymore"*

Informed conclusion: *"The popularity of reality TV has significantly declined in recent years. The evidence shows that shows such as Love Island and X-Factor have seen a massive drop off in viewers since 2011. In 2011 almost 45% of Brits regularly watched reality TV. This figure is now down to 13%."*

A **very** good conclusion is one that makes a clear statement and leaves the reader in no doubt about the conclusion you have reached. Try to avoid vague or weak conclusions that don't make a clear statement about the evidence you have read. Let's imagine we were making a conclusion about the link between poverty and voting behaviour in the 2014 Independence Referendum.

There is a link between poverty and voting behaviour

- *This conclusion is very poor. It is weak, and vague, and gives no real indication as to how strong the link is.*

Those who live in poverty were significantly more likely to vote YES in the 2014 Independence Referendum.

- *This is a strong conclusion. It highlights the link between poverty and a YES vote. It also uses evaluative language to highlight how strong the link is.*

Furthermore, a very good conclusion will make use of evaluative language. These are words which convey to the reader the extent of which there is a link or that something is changing.

- Significantly
- Dramatically
- Consistently
- Repeatedly
- Regularly

Within your conclusion you should also try to use language which demonstrates what is happening in the evidence.

1. Fallen/Risen
2. Most/Least
3. More/Less
4. Increased/Decreased
5. Higher/Lower
6. More than/Less Than

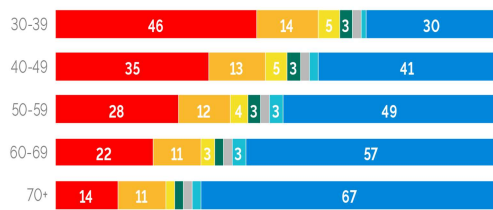
Task 2: Drawing Conclusions

Read the sources below and try to come to a conclusion.

Vote by age

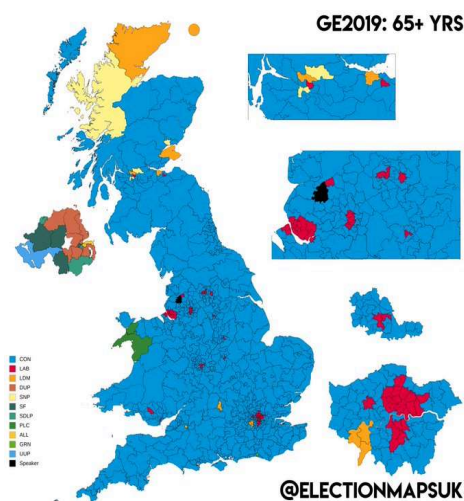
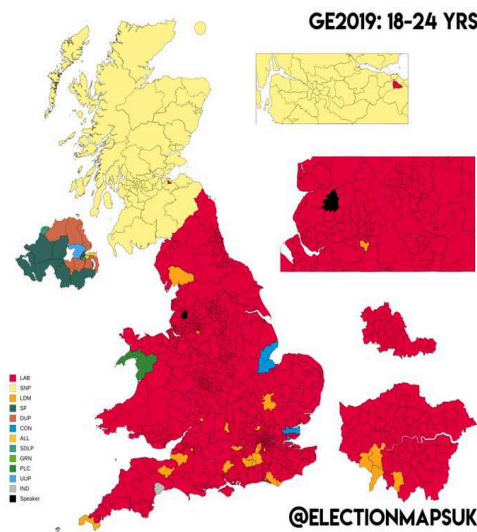
% of 41,995 adults who voted at the 2019 general election





YouGov

13-16 December 2019



What conclusion can be drawn about the link between age and voting behaviour in the UK?

Task 3: How to answer a conclusion?

You should have the SQA 2019 conclusions question in your notebook.

Like any source question, the key is to follow the structure as closely as possible. This will allow you to maximise the marks you gain. Follow these simple steps.

Step 1: Take three different colours of highlighter for each bullet point. Go through all three sections and highlight relevant evidence for that bullet point.

Step 2: Take each bullet point one at a time. Review the evidence and come to a clear and detailed conclusion related to the bullet point.

Step 3: Write out your conclusion and provide **three** pieces of evidence to back this up. You should try to use evidence from a variety of sources.

Step 4: Include an evaluative comment that summarises what the evidence shows us. How does it back up your conclusion?

Step 5: Repeat this for the remaining two conclusions.

One conclusion can that can be drawn about... is that...

Evidence to support this can be found in Source A/B/C where it states that...

This can be backed up by Source A/B/C where it states that...

This can be further backed up by Source A/B/C where it states that...

The evidence above shows us that...

Step 6: Once you have completed this for all three bullet points you need an overall conclusion. This overall conclusion should be treated **exactly** the same as the other three, except you only need **two** pieces of evidence for this.

Practice

Taking on board the feedback your teacher has provided you so far. Complete the question above in class.

Prove-it

To demonstrate your learning on conclusions questions, your teacher should have given you **SQA 2024** to complete on your own. Complete this in your jotter.

☐ I can successfully answer an SQA Higher Modern Studies conclusion question.

Plenary

Which Family Guy character best sums up how well you feel to answer conclusions questions in the upcoming test and prelim?



