


Level	Descriptor	Example A	Example B	Example C	Example D	Example E
Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An open-ended question Explicitly about knowledge Couched in terms of TOK vocabulary and concepts¹ Precise in terms of relationships between these concepts 	What is it about a scientific explanation that makes it convincing or unconvincing?	To what extent can the human sciences use mathematical techniques to make accurate predictions?	How can reason be used to justify religious belief?	What, if anything, do optical illusions tell us about sense perception and truth?	What role should intuition play in justifying capital punishment?
Intermediate	May be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an open-ended question explicitly about knowledge 	How can we decide if acupuncture works or not?	How can we use models to predict crime waves?	Are religious beliefs reasonable?	What can we learn from optical illusions?	How can we know if capital punishment is right or wrong?
Poor	May be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a closed question implicitly about knowledge 	Does acupuncture work?	Will predictions on teenage smoking turn out to be correct?	How do religious people come to their beliefs?	Why do optical illusions happen?	Capital punishment: why should or shouldn't we adopt it?
Not a knowledge issue	May be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a statement or a description of a situation a closed question a subject-specific topic or question rather than about knowledge in itself 	Traditional medicine	Stopping teenagers smoking	Physics and God	Optical illusions	The execution of Saddam Hussein
Real-life situation	This could be the real-life situation for the presentation or an example in the essay:	My uncle went to an acupuncturist	A new government policy	Article on science and religion	An optical illusion	A book: <i>The Execution of Saddam Hussein</i>

Level	Descriptor	Example F	Example G	Example H	Example I	Your own knowledge issue
Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An open-ended question Explicitly about knowledge Couched in terms of TOK vocabulary and concepts² Precise in terms of relationships between these concepts 					Your own highly focused knowledge issue
Intermediate	May be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an open-ended question explicitly about knowledge 	Should we believe paranormal claims?				
Poor	May be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a closed question implicitly about knowledge 	Does the paranormal exist?	Why is Utilitarianism appealing?	Is swine flu likely to kill millions?		
Not a knowledge issue	May be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a statement or a description of a situation a closed question a subject-specific topic or question rather than about knowledge in itself 	What is the sixth sense?	Utilitarianism	What do we mean by an "epidemic"?	The credit crisis	
Real-life situation	This could be the real-life situation for the presentation or an example in the essay:	A film on haunting	A patriotic poster saying "Buy British—it's good for everyone"	A news report on swine flu	An interview with bankers who have just lost their jobs	