

HSC Extended Response Practice: No.2

18/9/10

Que: “Athletes are born, not made”. Discuss this statement in relation to the characteristics of the learner.

8 Marks

Mark	Marking Guidelines
7-8	Provides an extensive discussion of the characteristics of the learner in relation to the given statement
5-6	Provides a sound discussion of the most of the characteristics of the learner in relation to the given statement
3-4	Provides an adequate discussion of the some of the characteristics of the learner in relation to the given statement OR Provides a sound discussion of the some of the characteristics of the learner
1-2	Provides some elementary information in relation to the characteristics of the learner

How to Answer:

Discuss – Identify issues and provide points for and/or against

Characteristics of the learner – personality (enthusiasm, competitiveness, self-esteem, relations to others, even aggression), heredity (natural ability), confidence, prior experience (transfer of skills), ability

Non syllabus characteristics – reasons for participating, level of aspiration, the degree of enjoyment, persistence at the activity and the effort put into the activity.

Statement – the statement “athletes are born, not made” wants you to differentiate between the modifiable and non-modifiable characteristics of the learner and argue the importance of each.

For example, you could argue that sprinters are born, due to the high dependence on body type and composition based on heredity, citing the fact that a Caucasian hasn't won the men's Olympic 100m sprint for over 50 years.

In contrast, you could argue that soccer players are made because of the high reliance on eye-foot coordination which can be brought about through prior experience, confidence, and persistence at the activity – all of which can and need to be developed.

Examples should be used for each of the characteristics of the learner
