Appendix B   : Sample LORMS for Causation SEQs

Generic LORMS template for Causation SEQ (8 mark question)

Level	Description	Marks
L1	**Describes without factors**	1–2
L2	**Describes with factors** Award 2–3 marks for one described factor and 3–4 marks for two described factors.	2–4
L3	**Explains with factors** Award 5–6 marks for one explained factor and 7–8 marks for two explained factors.	5–8

Generic LORMS template for Causation SEQ (12 mark question)

Level	Description	Marks
L1	**Describes without factors**	1–2
L2	**Explains Yes OR No** Award 3 marks for explanation of one side, with more marks for additional reasons or supporting details for reasons, to a maximum of 6 marks.	3–6
L3	**Explains Yes AND No** Award 7 marks for explanation of both sides, with more marks for additional reasons or supporting details for reasons, to a maximum of 10 marks.	7–10
L4	**Weighs factors** Requires an explicit consideration of 'How far?' using criteria beyond	11–12

	those used in L3. Award higher mark for more developed answers.	

Sample LORMS for Causation SEQ

The question is taken from the 2019 'O'-level paper. As discussed in Section 3, this answer key demonstrates the flexible, hierarchical, and non-cumulative characteristics of LORMS.

(a) Explain why Japan occupied Manchuria in 1932.   [8]

(b) 'The reason for Japan's defeat in World War II was American military might.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.   [12]

(a)	Explain why Japan occupied Manchuria in 1932.	[8]
Level	**Description**	**Marks**
L1	**Describes without factors** e.g. *Japan was a colonial power in the 1930s.*	1
L2	**Describes with factors** Award 2–3 marks for one described factor and 3–4 marks for two described factors. e.g. *Japan occupied Manchuria in 1932 because she was overpopulated. For example, Japan's population had grown rapidly, from 45 million in 1900 to 64 million by 1930.* e.g. *Japan occupied Manchuria in 1932 because she was in the midst of economic depression. For example, Japan's silk exports had fallen drastically and workers were being laid off.*	2–4
L3	**Explains with factors** Award 5–6 marks for one explained factor and 7–8 marks for two explained factors.	5–8

e.g. *Japan occupied Manchuria in 1932 because she was overpopulated. For example, Japan's population had grown rapidly, from 45 million in 1900 to 64 million by 1930. As a result, Japan needed more land and living space for her people. Manchuria served as an ideal outlet to relieve population pressures in Japan, because tenants without land in Japan could migrate to Manchuria and start farms on virgin land there. Thus, Japan's occupation of Manchuria helped to address the problem of overpopulation.*

e.g. *Japan occupied Manchuria in 1932 because she was in the midst of economic depression. For example, Japan's silk exports had fallen drastically and workers were being laid off. As a result, Japan was in dire need of new markets. Manchuria provided a captive market and could even supply raw materials to reduce the cost of production in Japan. This would allow Japanese companies to become competitive, improve their performance, and rehire workers. Thus, Japan's occupation of Manchuria helped to improve the economy.*

(b)	'The reason for Japan's defeat in World War II was American military might.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.	[12]
Level	**Description**	**Marks**
L1	**Describes without factors** e.g. *Japan declared war on the USA in 1941.*	1–2
L2	**Explains Yes OR No** Award 3 marks for explanation of one side, with more marks for additional reasons or supporting details for reasons, to a maximum of 6 marks. e.g. *Japan was defeated in World War II because of American military might. For example, the USA produced 324,000 planes in the war, compared to Japan's production of 76,000 planes. As a result, the US was able to project more power on the battlefield, and overwhelm Japan's forces by sheer numerical dominance. With her higher industrial production, the USA expanded her forces faster than Japan could replace lost machines, and her defeat became a matter of time. Thus, Japan's defeat was caused by American military might.*	3–6

L3	**Explains Yes AND No**	7–10
	Award 7 marks for explanation of both sides, with more marks for additional reasons or supporting details for reasons, to a maximum of 10 marks.	
	e.g. *Japan was defeated in World War II because of the Allied victory in Europe. For example, Italy surrendered to the Allies in 1944, and Germany was defeated by May 1945. As a result, Japan could no longer count on her allies among the Axis Powers to distract her opponents. On the contrary, Japan's enemies such as the USA, Britain, China, and the USSA banded together and staged joint operations against her on multiple fronts: in the Pacific, in China, and in Manchuria. Thus, Japan's defeat was caused by the Allied victory in Europe.*	
L4	**Weighs factors**	11–12
	Requires an explicit consideration of 'How far?' using criteria beyond those used in L3. Award higher mark for more developed answers.	
	e.g. *[Both paragraphs in L3 +] I agree with the statement to a large extent, as American military might was the main reason for Japan's defeat. The massive industrial capability of the US made the outcome of the Pacific War a foregone conclusion, regardless of whether Britain and the USSR could lend a helping hand. Indeed, by the time of the Allied victory in Europe, the US had already destroyed the main Japanese naval fleets and recaptured Southeast Asia, pushing towards the home islands. By the time of Germany's defeat in May 1945, Britain and the USSR had little to contribute towards the defeat of Japan. Thus, I agree with the statement to a large extent.*	
	e.g. *[Both paragraphs in L3 +] I agree with the statement to a small extent, as the main reason for Japan's defeat was the Allied victory in Europe rather than American military might. Despite the horrific losses in civilian and military lives sustained by Japan throughout the Pacific War, they had never thought about surrender, instead holding out for a negotiated truce with the USA. In other words, the massive military might of the US was not sufficient to bring Japan to her knees. It was the defeat of Germany in May 1945 that made the Japanese leaders realise that she was now alone in fighting the remaining Great Powers, a point brought home by the USSR invasion of Manchuria in August, and eventually forced her to accept unconditional surrender. Thus, I agree with the statement to a small extent.*	