



ALPHACRUCIS COLLEGE

## What is an exegetical essay and how will it be marked?

In writing an exegetical essay you are required to take the skills of exegesis and apply them to answering an essay question. While an exegesis addresses a particular, usually quite limited biblical passage and seeks to discover its meaning, an exegetical essay will ask a question or call for discussion of a topic or topics relating to a book, book section, or genre of the bible. It does not usually specify particular verses. You will need to develop an argument in answer to the question, based on particular verses which you will choose and explain, using exegesis, **always** in relation to your question. You will need to consult both primary and secondary sources, using the secondary sources to inform and develop your answer to the essay question.

The following is a guide to marking, but it should be noted that an essay is always 'more than the sum of its parts', and that a certain amount of discretion is left to the essay-marker. An example of this might be where the spelling and grammar is so poor throughout that it renders the essay unreadable. The essay may fail on these grounds, despite the marking guide of 10/50.

Use of primary and secondary sources	7.5
Introduction and conclusion	7.5
Argument (including how the question is answered)	25
Spelling, grammar, syntax, paragraphs	10
	/50