

The Viva Voce Process for Students

Adapted from

<https://sites.google.com/site/extendedessayguide/for-supervisors/viva-voce>

The *viva voce* is a short interview between the student and the supervisor, and is a recommended conclusion to the extended essay process.

The *viva voce* serves the following purposes:

- a check on plagiarism and malpractice in general
- an opportunity to reflect on successes and difficulties in the research process
- an opportunity to reflect on what has been learned
- an aid to the supervisor's report.

The *viva voce* should last between 10 and 15 minutes. This is included in the amount of time the supervisor should spend with the student.

The following are example questions that can be asked, which should be adapted to the particular essay and student:

- "I am not clear what you mean on page XX. You quote Y: could you explain a little more about what this tells us?"
- "On page *** you cite Z. I couldn't find this reference (for example, website). Could you tell me more about it?"
- "What have been the high and low points of the research and writing process?"
- "What were the most interesting aspects of the process? Did you discover anything that surprised you?"
- "What have you learned through writing this essay? Is there any advice you would want to pass on to someone just starting out on an extended essay?"
- "Is there anything else that you would particularly like me to mention in my report?"