

Marking Reliability

Education

How much of a mark comes from the work and how much from the marker.

Known sources of variation between markers of the same script.

Sources of drift

Halo effect from earlier work by the pupil

Contrast with the script marked immediately before

Handwriting and presentation

Fatigue across a long marking session

Drifting standards over days

What reduces it

Anonymised scripts

Marking question by question, not script by script

A shared set of exemplar scripts

Blind double marking on a sample

Standardisation before, not after, marking

Educational reference. Extended writing is the least reliably marked format, and no amount of rubric detail fully removes marker variance.