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Activity

Marking AQA A2 exam papers

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After reading the exam advice on pp. 6–9 of the magazine, now try marking student answers to Question 11 on the 2013 PHED3 Section C paper.

The question

(11) Explain the strategies UK Sport has implemented to develop elite performers (4 marks)

Mark scheme

- A** Coordinated approach (e.g. with NGBs).
- B** Oversee UKSI/EIS.
- C** Responsible for World Class Performance Programme.
- D** Operates at three levels: talent, development and podium.
- E** World Class Events helps bids to attract major sports events to the UK.
- F** Research and innovation develops new technology for elite performers, e.g. clothing/equipment.
- G** People development develops high-quality coaches.
- H** Ideals develops partnerships with other countries.
- I** Puts in place sport science support/performance lifestyle advice.
- J** Promotes fair play, e.g. anti-doping controls.
- K** International influence develops links with international organisations.
- L** International development — promoting sport to other countries to improve participation.
- M** Distribution of National Lottery funding/Athlete Personal Awards.
- N** Talent ID overview.

Examiner comments

Question 11 required brief/succinct explanations of certain strategies that UK Sport has implemented to develop elite performers. Unlike AS questions on sports organisations, it is not enough to simply state the schemes/initiatives and expect to get marks. You often need to provide a brief explanation, for example:

'Via research and innovation, sports like cycling develop new technologies such as clothing/equipment to give them the edge (**F on the mark scheme**). People development makes sure high-quality top-level coaches are recruited and trained to work with the elite-level performers (**G**).'

Student answers

Using the mark scheme above, have a go at marking and commenting on the following three responses. Check your scores using the separate Answers document.

Answer 1

- Research and innovation
- Funding of elite performers
- World-class events

Marks:

Comments:

Answer 2

UK Sport oversees centres of excellence for elite performers (e.g. UKSI). It is responsible for developing elite performers, which includes giving them money. The National Lottery was introduced in 1997 and UK Sport gives some of the lottery funds to elite performers.

An important way UK Sport helps fund elite athletes is via Athlete Personal Awards. This money goes straight to the elite performer to help with living costs so they can devote themselves full time to sport and win us medals like at London 2012

Marks:

Comments:

Answer 3

UK Sport has developed lots of strategies to develop elite athletes. These include its responsibility for the World Class Performance Programme, which works at three levels from talent to development up to podium. Athletes on the World Class Performance Programme are able to go to the EIS centres that UK Sport is responsible for. These EIS centres develop new technology to help elite athletes (e.g. equipment to help cyclists), which is called research and innovation. They also provide the best sport science support for elite athletes, such as biomechanical analysis of performance.

Marks:

Comments: