



Marking rationale – Example 5

Theme: Nature's rhythms		Mark awarded = 48 out of 100	
AO1: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress		Competent skill in recording observations and insights from a variety of sources, relevant to intentions Good ability to reflect critically on work and progress	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research includes a range of recording from primary and secondary sources which are relevant to the candidate's theme and intentions. The candidate has worked from a varied selection of natural forms, supplemented by secondary-sourced images, as a basis for investigation.• References to contextual sources are appropriate. Each chosen artist has informed the candidate's approach to the recording of natural sources. They have also informed the candidate's ways of viewing and interpreting these sources and the exploration of ideas to expand the recording.• The gathered visual evidence is appropriate to the topic where the candidate recorded from first-hand study. This is evident in the drawings, paintings and photographs of fruits and flowers. The subject matter has been investigated from different views, angles and zooming in to show detail. The studies illustrate the visual qualities of colour, tone and pattern, where the candidate has attempted to show detail within the sources. This is particularly apparent in the observation of the zoomed-in yellow rose. Transcriptions from artist examples were also explored, in which the candidate identifies ideas for development as they reflect critically on their progress.• A range of methods have been undertaken, as shown by the candidate's own photography, digital exploration, drawings, paintings and a visit to an artist's studio.		Mark awarded = 12 out of 25 marks	
AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops		Competent exploration and selection of relevant resources, media, materials, techniques and processes Good ability to review and refine ideas as work develops	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appropriate materials and processes have been competently explored, demonstrating the candidate's sense of enquiry, building on and trying out new media ideas. This is frequently informed by the chosen contextual references, observing the way others use their media. There appears to be a sense of enjoyment during the experimentation of materials and techniques. This is particularly evident in the candidate's digital manipulation			

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during the recording through photography, of alternative arrangements of the fruits on the light box. The candidate has explored and captured the different qualities offered through this technique.

- The candidate has demonstrated an ability to explore and **select** a range of materials and processes to test alternative effects. They have been able to express the qualities in the subject matter and identify possible ideas for development. This is evidenced in the use of coloured pencil and pastel to show form, tone and the delicate textures and marks within the flowers. The lightbox exploration produced qualities similar to the chosen artist, as the candidate's slicing and placement of the fruits create interesting effects. However, they are less able to translate these effects into informed drawings using coloured pencil.
- There is understanding of the **inherent qualities** in the chosen media as the candidate continued to explore, resulting in clear and informed methods to express their ideas. Pastels, pencils and coloured pencils have been used to capture the delicate qualities within the forms of the flower and the fruits, showing careful observation. Other ideas involved experimenting with photographic ideas, influenced by artist study to create alternative effects.
- **Technical skills** are generally competent, but the success of the rendering is inconsistent across the response. The portfolio demonstrates some sensitive media qualities in the observation of the natural forms. However, the candidate's use of paint is less developed than their printmaking skills, which translates less successfully into the larger final outcome.
- A connection between their **research** and exploration has been established and this has positively impacted on the range of effects created by the candidate.
- There is good ability to **review and refine ideas** as work develops.

Mark awarded = 12 out of 25

AO3: Develop ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding

Competent development of ideas through focused investigations

Good analytical and critical understanding demonstrated through careful referencing of personal, contextual and other sources

- Development is generally **purposeful** and builds from research, making use of appropriate contextual references to inform and try out different ideas. For example, the candidate recognised potential in the supporting studies for developing ideas into flat surface pattern and/or into three-dimensional forms.
- Intentions are clear and encourage the purposeful development of the **candidate's own designs**. For example, the candidate has organised various arrangements with sliced fruit to explore different combinations, then has translated this into different **compositions**. The observation of the flowers has been developed into repeated patterns, as an idea for a flat surface pattern design, which could also be applied in a fashion context.
- The candidates has **developed imagery**, considering some alternative ideas. For example, the colour and three-dimensional structures and shapes, found within the primary and secondary sources, have also been translated into structural designs for fashion or costume. The candidate produced many idea variations showing possibilities.

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- The **portfolio** clearly connects to the final outcome through the development of research and ideas. However, the refinement of the design and the rendering of media in the final outcome, is less successful. The delicate qualities from the subject matter are not demonstrated with the same level of rendering skill apparent in the supporting studies. The translation from smaller scale ideas have not been realised as effectively at a larger scale.
- **Reflection** on ideas and different possibilities through careful referencing of contextual and personal sources demonstrates good **analysis and critical** understanding. This is clear visually and through supporting annotation.

Mark awarded = 13 out of 25

AO4: Present a personal and coherent response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements

Competent realisation of intentions demonstrating a good use of visual language
Good connections made between visual and other elements

- The **final outcome** clearly evolves from the portfolio work to show relevant **connections** and is a competent conclusion to the response. However, this is less resolved and refined than the portfolio work. There is inconsistent understanding of the visual elements, refinement of design, composition, scale and media rendering, to successfully translate the same qualities from within the portfolio work.
- There is a clear progression of ideas, but with stronger focus on fewer ideas the candidate may have been able to achieve greater depth to the development. This could have translated into a final outcome that was more successfully resolved. Intentions are still realised through the **creative journey**, which is clear, but stronger decisions informed by the supporting studies could have been realised in the outcome. For example, the subtleties of tone, colour, mark and shading from the flower studies combined with the qualities of layering and transparency from the lightbox fruits. Each could have been effectively translated into sensitivity in the designs, which could have established a stronger, more successful final conclusion to the work.
- **Intentions** are clear throughout the response, demonstrated in the clear journey that shows how the recording, development and media use each combine to build, inform and progress appropriate ideas into a connected final outcome.
- The **understanding of visual language** varies in strength and success. There is evidence of this in the creation of shapes and patterns within the designs. The initial recording also demonstrates understanding of colour form and tone, which are not all carried through to the final outcome with the same success.
- The response demonstrates a good ability to **reflect** on ideas as the work progressed. The ability to **analyse** the strengths in the ideas as the work moved forward, enabled ideas to develop through good **critical decision making** regarding the direction of the work. The submission demonstrates good connections between visual and other elements.

Mark awarded = 11 out of 25