



Marking rationale – Example 6

Theme: Serenity		Mark awarded = 57 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 primary and secondary sources. The candidate has recorded from sunset skies, clouds, landscapes, beachscapes, and studies of figures and animals at rest. All recording is relevant to the theme alternative ideas and approaches for investigation have been identified.• Relevant contextual sources have been referenced to express the ideas relating to the topic, demonstrating the candidate's ability to make connections.• Visual evidence has been gathered competently, using different methods such as drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, from sources directly in front of them and from translations of their own photographs.• Most of the observational studies have been translated from primary sources, with the occasional reference to a secondary-sourced image of a landscape. Alternative viewpoints within the sky, land and beachscapes have been investigated to show the candidate's intention. A range of different landscapes are also referenced to show alternative content for inspiration such as rocks, trees and mountains, which offer different reflections on the water. Lighting has been considered to reflect mood. Alternative compositions include showing the figure in resting positions, such as seated in a chair, reclining on a sun lounger or bed, slumped over a table asleep, as well as a cat snoozing in the sun. The studies demonstrated visual qualities of colour, texture shape, tone, form, depth, perspective and composition organisation.• There is good ability to critically reflect on subject matter, work and progress. This is shown in the connections made in research and in the continued investigation of their sources.		Mark awarded = 15 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	

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- The candidate has competently **explored** a range of relevant materials and processes to create a range of effects, to express the intentions within their theme and ideas. There is a genuine sense of enquiry in the manipulation of materials in which the candidate has expanded on their knowledge and skills.
- Ideas are clearly communicated through the **selection** of purposeful media choices throughout the work, showing some refinement in the work as it progressed.
- The candidate has understood the potential in the **inherent qualities** of the media they chose. The expressive use of pastel and charcoal created drama and mood, particularly in the representation of the skies and landscapes, through well-observed studies. Washes and layers of paint capture the calm and serenity of the seascapes, through lighting effects seen in the changing sun sets. Pastels and paint illustrate the figure studies, where the use of colour has been influenced by contextual sources, but inconsistencies of skill are evident in this work.
- **Technical skill** is generally competent. The studies of the sea, land and water are executed with refinement and effective media use has enabled the candidate to show good understanding of the visual elements. However, there are inconsistencies in the execution of media to represent the figurative work, where form, tone and mark making have been rendered less successfully.
- Connections between **research**, subject matter, contextual references and the selection of materials are appropriate and demonstrate the candidate's intention, enabling the candidate to explore relevant effects and try new ideas. Artist references include the rendering of the tones and drama of the skies and mood of the landscape, informing the candidate's selection of media to convey these qualities.
- There is a good ability to **review and refine ideas** as the work develops, as can be seen in the use of media to convey ideas. However, the portfolio work demonstrates stronger successful media use in the creation of the seascapes, than in the final outcome. This could be due to the differences in scale, where exploring alternative sizes of background prior to attempting the final outcome could have helped prevent this occurrence.

Mark awarded = 15 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 **purposeful** where ideas have evolved from research. The candidate's clear concepts have enabled focused investigations and a sense progression in their work. Different ideas have been considered to capture alternative scenes. Contextual sources have influenced the lighting, colour mixing, application of media, mark making, and the layering of tone and colour to create mood.
- **Idea** exploration is individual, with the candidate's critical understanding informing personal images, concepts and direction of study. The candidate has explored mood lighting and figurative posture to portray their intentions. Written annotation is relevant and supports the visual work.
- The candidate has developed imagery, considering **alternative** land and seascape views, the figure seated, lying and in contemplation or sleeping, the play of light and close up effects. There is evidence of planning seen in the images towards the end of the response. These

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incorporate the figure as part of the seascape to complete the scene. Different compositions showing inclusions of the figure in alternative positions forge a link to the final outcome.

- The **portfolio studies** clearly connect to the final outcome. However, other developed compositions in the supporting work were more successful.
- Careful referencing of personal and contextual sources demonstrates good **analytical and critical** understanding.

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 and is a cohesive conclusion to the response.
- The **creative journey** is clear and informs progress from the candidate's initial intentions to the final outcome. Effective decision making connects the imagery with purpose, which grew as the ideas in the portfolio progressed. However, while there was a competent realisation of intentions, other compositions in the portfolio hold more success. For example, the aesthetic qualities and balance in the views from sideways-on or an off-centred view. The lighting and the play of light was more exciting and creative in the supporting work and offered opportunities for the layering of colours and tones. These qualities in the supporting studies have not been recognised in the final outcome to enable achievement at the same level of success.
- **Intentions** are demonstrated clearly throughout the response. This is evidenced in the visual studies and annotation which work together to inform the viewer. The organisation of images in the presentation of the work enables the candidate to illustrate a clear story. The focused investigations as well as the candidate's observational skills and rendering of relevant media create appropriate effects which enhance the candidate's understanding of **visual language**, to effectively communicate an idea.
- Good **connections** have been made between different sources and idea development. This demonstrates the candidate's ability to analyse and **reflect** on ideas while realising their intention. However, critical decision making about how the final outcome should be composed are not always effective.

Mark awarded = 14 out of 25