



## Marking rationale – Example 9

Theme: Digital Human: Exploring Posthumanist Perspectives through Algorithmic Figures in Contemporary Art

Mark awarded = 88 out of 100

**AO1:** Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress

**Confident** skill in recording observations and insights from a variety of sources, relevant to intentions

**Highly effective** ability to reflect critically on work and progress

**Confident** use of specialist language and appropriate technical vocabulary

- **Research** and recording are clearly relevant to intention and show depth of investigation from a range of sources. The candidate begins their investigation through the lens of humanist theory and how posthuman artworks challenge preconceptions of the relationship between human, environment and technology. They reference a number of artists through well-selected secondary resources and make first-hand observations through the use of their own photography. They also view work in a local gallery.
- **Referencing the work of others** has been used to influence original ideas. Connections will be made through selecting the works of others to inform further study. The written recording clearly indicates the relationship between the various artists referred to and the theme. The candidate interprets the work in light of their theme and is able to make well thought out links between the concept and the visual appearance of the work to support their ideas.
- **Gathering of evidence** is clearly related to the chosen theme. The reference materials and resources are highly interconnected and purposeful to the investigation.
- There is consistent evidence of the candidate recording from **primary sources**, with the subject in front of them. This is seen in the use of their own photography and gallery visit.
- **Observational study** is purposeful and shows recording of different angles, viewpoints, and other visual elements. Their ability to generate primary visual source material in relation to their ideas demonstrates a clear understanding of purpose and quality. They support their ideas through various theories and apply this to their exploration of their ideas, looking at their subject through different contexts.
- Different **methods of recording** are apparent and investigated thoroughly. The candidate has used different ways to record their ideas and observations. This is evident within the written discussion, their own photography, and different applications of technology within the investigation.
- They make use of **critical reflection** to analyse their progress and the work of others to achieve their aims. They are able to critically reflect on their progress in direct response to the work of others. This is used effectively to challenge preconceptions within the discipline of their investigation and their own creative responses.

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- They possess a mostly secure command of **art terminology** when analysing their chosen references and studies. They use appropriate art terminology to develop the discussion and analyse the work of others. This is evident within the research and the candidate's own interpretation of research material.

**Mark awarded = 20 out of 25 marks**

**AO2:** Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops

Exploration and selection of relevant resources, media, materials, techniques and processes are **excellent**  
**Highly accomplished** and **sophisticated** ability to review and refine ideas as work develops  
**Excellent** communication of ideas through visual and other forms

- Sophisticated, effective and relevant **exploration** of materials and processes. Demonstrating a sense of enquiry in exploring and expanding their knowledge and skills. A clear willingness to take creative risks with media exploration, to test alternative effects. From the outset, the candidate recognises an issue between the words used to describe the works and the actual application of media such as bytes to brushstrokes. They employ a number of traditional skills, materials and processes. They are able to integrate this with technology to fuse the two worlds of analogue and digital.
- **Purposeful** selection and exploration of materials to express ideas effectively. Ideas are thoroughly explored through different processes and techniques. The candidate selects appropriate methods to explore different materials and processes to develop their ideas. They show a clear understanding of the connection between concept and media.
- The candidate has demonstrated clear understanding of the **inherent qualities** of media and has selected the most relevant in relation to their ideas. This can be seen in their application of a number of traditional skills such as painting and digital collage, combining this through stencil or spray paint techniques, using non-traditional tools such as a copier or scanner to create images and using a programme to generate face-tracking mesh. They demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between ideas and the media used to express them.
- Excellent **technical skill** evident in the explorations, demonstrating clear understanding of the visual elements. They demonstrate excellent technical ability, skill and control across a range of media. They have a strong understanding of the visual elements seen in the numerous personal responses.
- Clear connection between their research and exploration and how these **references** have had an impact on their explorations and selections of materials, media and techniques. The influence of their research into the work of others and the depth of their understanding can be seen in the way they sensitively apply this to the development of a range of personal responses.
- Highly accomplished and sophisticated ability to **review and refine ideas** as work develops. The written annotation reflects their ability to review their work as ideas progress but also to refine these through the application and combination of media.

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- Excellent **communication** of ideas through visual and other forms throughout their explorations. They are able to effectively communicate their ideas both in written form and through visual exploration. The progression of ideas and understanding is made clear through the combination of both theoretical and practical exploration of the theme.

**Mark awarded = 23 out of 25**

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

**Excellent** development of ideas through focused investigations  
Analytical and Critical understanding demonstrated through **highly accomplished** and **mature** referencing of personal, contextual and other sources  
**Perceptive** integration of practical and written elements

- Development is **purposeful** throughout. Initial recording provides an effective and well-considered basis for thorough exploration of concepts. Clear critical understanding informed by contextual connections has been established, feeding into the body of work. The written discussion develops through the references made to the work of others and the contextual understanding of the subject. The candidate is able to apply their understanding to generate a body of highly personal, deep, creative work.
- The candidate has successfully used their initial research into practitioners to create their own individual and **original** concepts. A clear ability to evaluate the motivations of the selected artists and decide which is most appropriate to connect to intentions. The candidate not only uses their research into the work of others effectively to create a body of original work they are also able to challenge concepts of being human in an increasingly technological world. This can be seen more effectively in the written analysis but not as strongly in the development of visual responses.
- There is clear, intelligent **reflection** on ideas and an ability to refine ideas as work progresses. This is evident in the way and the pace at which the work progresses. The candidate is able to inform their ideas and development through their observations of the work others and their ability to interpret this to generate personal outcomes. This can be seen both in the written annotation and the how the visual works build on each other.
- Highly accomplished and mature referencing of personal, contextual and other sources, demonstrating highly effective **analytical and critical** understanding. The candidate has a clear understanding of the context of their theme and the theory that supports it. This is evident in the body of the written discussion and in the analysis of the work of others. They are able to synthesise their understanding of the theory with their ability to explore this through visual means and experimentation with media.
- Perceptive **integration** of practical and written elements. The structure of the written element is clear and concise. There is a clear relationship between the progress made in the discussion of the theme and the visual exploration.

**Mark awarded = 23 out of 25**

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

**Excellent** realisation of intentions demonstrated through an **excellent** use of visual language  
**Highly accomplished** and **mature** connections made between visual and other

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elements

Work demonstrates an **excellent** level of engagement and independence

- The **response overall** is a cohesive illustration of the investigation, making excellent use of research, recording, explorations and developed ideas to realise intentions. This is a very cohesive body of work. There is a depth of focus and understanding apparent throughout, showing an interconnected approach to concept, imagery and media. The candidate has made an informed selection of artists to support the realisation of their ideas.
- There is a clear progression of ideas across the response, and the candidate demonstrates effective decision making across their **creative journey**. The candidate has been effective in their decision making, as seen in the written annotation as the work progresses. They demonstrate a clear sense of purpose within the development of ideas.
- The candidate's **intentions** are clear throughout the response, even when ideas and aims change direction. There is clear direction within both the written and visual elements of the investigation. The progress within the investigation is achieved through a clear sense of purpose and clarity of thought.
- Understanding of **visual language** is effective throughout the work, enhanced by skilful handling of media. The candidate has shown excellent skill in handling media and an ability to manipulate the visual elements to communicate ideas effectively. They have a clear understanding of how the visual language underpins conceptual explorations.
- The response clearly and thoughtfully **communicates** the candidate's ability to **analyse, reflect, and evaluate ideas** and make relevant critical decisions. Written elements are perceptive and analytical. The candidate takes a mature approach to the selection of their theme and the materials used to support this. Their observations and connections made between their theme and the work of others shows a high level of critical engagement and they are able to use analysis to inform their ideas.
- Highly accomplished and mature **connections** made between visual and other elements. The candidate has made mature connections within both the written and visual responses to the work of others and their own achievements. The discussion around the theme and the analysis of selected imagery is reflected in the practical responses.
- Effectively **evaluate** their achievements and show understanding of their work in wider context through written conclusion. This is evident within the written discussion and conclusion. This is less effective in relation to the overall achievement in the visual exploration, which begins to get repetitive towards the end.
- Work demonstrates an excellent level of **engagement** and **independence**. This is a highly effective investigation in which the candidate has engaged with a complex subject matter and has been involved with the relevant material in a deep and purposeful manner. They have demonstrated a high level of independent thinking and have been open to new ways of seeing in relation to ideas of identity and being human.

Mark awarded = 22 out of 25