



9479/01 Marking rationale – Example 9

Theme: Downfall		Mark awarded = 86 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	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and recording are clearly relevant to intention and show depth of investigation from a range of sources. This is apparent in the candidate’s studies and photographs of the figure showing expressive postures, such as the hands clasped to the head in distress. The studies relate to the idea of being in a negative mental state and the feeling of being overwhelmed. The selection of the mask is another symbolic source to show a thoughtful approach to the recording. Throughout the submission, the candidate demonstrates elements of recording as their ideas progress. • Relevant referencing to contextual sources is used to make connections and influence original ideas to inform observation. This can be seen in the way the candidate approaches and explores new ideas to develop their theme. For example, the candidate’s studies of the masked heads with the evaporating backgrounds. This relates to their idea of the changes to the mental and physical state, and the unravelling and overflowing emotions, influenced by Robert Carter’s dissipating head and Escher’s peeling heads and drawing hands. The works of others inform the candidate’s concept and show appropriate connections. • The gathering of visual evidence is clearly related to the chosen theme and has been carried out with purpose and engagement. The candidate carries out expressive poses which also incorporate masks and draped fabric to convey ideas. • There is consistent evidence of the candidate recording from primary sources, with the subject in front of them. This is evident in their use of photography and focused observational studies of the same subject matter. • The observational study is purposeful and confidently explores the visual elements of colour, form and tone. This is demonstrated through exploration of alternative figure poses, viewpoints, studies of hands, faces and mask. Compositions build as the work progresses. Different methods of recording are apparent and investigated in depth. • There is a highly accomplished and sophisticated ability to review and refine ideas as work develops, evident in the progression of the visual exploration and in the relevant supporting annotation. • The candidate shows a highly effective ability to reflect critically on work and progress. This is demonstrated in the candidate’s decision to record their idea of emotional turmoil through their figure work, as the visual imagery continues to move forward. 		
Mark awarded = 20 out of 25 marks		
AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and	Exploration and selection of relevant resources, media, materials, techniques and processes are excellent	

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processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops

Highly accomplished and **sophisticated** ability to review and refine ideas as work develops

- There is a highly effective and relevant **exploration** of materials and processes. The candidate selects the most relevant media to express intentions. There is a **sense of enquiry** while they explore and build on their knowledge and skills. For example, they explore biro, printing, different coloured and experimental backgrounds to express ideas. The candidate's technical skills become stronger as the work develops. This is evident in the tonal work, application of paint later in the work, and in the final outcome.
- The candidate undertakes **purposeful** selection and exploration of materials to express ideas effectively. Ideas are thoroughly explored through different processes and techniques. This is evident in the candidate's decision to explore different background colours and surfaces to work on. This is in response to the artist research while conveying their own ideas during idea exploration, to achieve the desired effects through paint, pencil, print, ink and digital manipulation.
- The candidate demonstrates clear understanding of the **inherent qualities** of media and selects the most relevant, in relation to their ideas. For example, they use scratchy and blotchy ink to demonstrate anguish and turmoil in their initial studies. Exploration of light and dark through print to show anxiety; sensitive studies using pencil; accomplished rendering of paint; the use of brushstrokes to show light and dark, tonal qualities and atmosphere.
- Excellent **technical skill** is evident throughout the work and shows the candidate's clear understanding of the visual elements. This is seen in the painting of the figures, showing an ability to represent skin tone, the use of colour and tone to show form, and in the blending of paint in the street scenes to show atmosphere and softness of light.
- There are clear connections between the research and exploration as ideas progress. These **references** positively impact on exploration and the selection of materials and techniques. This is demonstrated in the different background colours and lighting expressed through the application of paint. Contextual references influence and enable the candidate to convey their ideas of anguish, turmoil and the state of becoming unravelled.
- There is a highly accomplished and sophisticated ability to **review and refine** ideas as work develops, evident in the progression of the visual exploration and in the relevant supporting annotation.

Mark awarded = 22 out of 25 marks**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

- The development is **purposeful** throughout. Initial recording provides an effective and well-considered basis for the exploration of concepts which evolve as the work progresses. Clear **critical understanding** informed by **contextual connections** has been established and feeds into the final outcome. This is evident in the artist influence of new ideas such as the colour palette, lighting, background colour and composition arrangements of the figure, the mask and the binding ribbon, which enhance the candidate's concept.
- The candidate has successfully used their initial research into practitioners to create their own individual and **original** concepts. There is a clear ability to evaluate the motivations of the selected artists and decide which is most appropriate to connect to intentions. This can be seen in the references to Carter and Escher where the candidate has related the artists' imagery to their own ideas, enabling the concept to progress. For example, the candidate explores the idea of becoming unravelled with the pressure of not coping and bottling things up. The physical effects of

being in turmoil are represented through the fragmented and shattered head. The candidate explores the connections between the artists' work and their own ideas.

- The written annotation is informative and identifies the candidate's ability to reflect on ideas and progress. This serves to support the visual communication throughout the portfolio.
- There is consistent evidence that they have developed their **imagery**. Alternative compositions and viewpoints have been considered as well as, symbolism in the choice of colour in the backgrounds, the combination of monochrome and colour, as well as tonal effects to create atmosphere and show the progression of ideas, concept and imagery.
- The **supporting studies** lead to and inform the final outcome. The candidate explores a range of developed ideas, informed by their research and refines these ideas to plan their final outcome effectively. This is evident in the smaller painted compositions to try out colour ways, and small composition sketches used to plan their final outcome.
- The response communicates the candidate's ability to **reflect on and refine ideas** in visual form, supported by written notes as the work progresses. Highly effective **analytical and critical** understanding is evidenced through the referencing of personal and contextual sources. For example, the candidate uses their artist research to inform their decisions on how best to communicate their concepts in connection to their own experiences.

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

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

- The **final outcome** is a cohesive conclusion to the response, clearly informed by the supporting studies as ideas evolve. This is apparent in the arrangement of different elements within the composition, the growing refinement of media, choice of colour palette, and the refined understanding of visual language.
- There is clear progression from the initial ideas to the final outcome. The candidate demonstrates their ability to realise their intentions along the **creative journey**. For example, they begin with studies and photographs of the figure in turmoil and use this as a basis to expand their recording. Ideas are enhanced by relevant and thoughtful contextual referencing to show the figure not coping, hiding their sorrow, anxiety, emotions exploding and unravelling. Personal ideas grow and progress into developed compositions.
- The candidate's **intentions** are clearly communicated throughout the response. This is evident through the visual exploration, relevant composition development and supporting annotation, into the final response.
- Understanding of **visual language** is effective throughout the work, enhanced by the skilful rendering of media. For example, the candidate demonstrates understanding of tone and colour to express form, lighting effects and atmosphere. This is evident in the figure studies and development compositions. The final outcome in itself is a strong composition showing highly accomplished painting skills, and an effective colour palette which shows a clear visual connection to the portfolio.
- The response clearly and thoughtfully **communicates** the candidate's ability to **analyse, reflect, and evaluate** ideas, to make relevant critical decisions and enable the work to build. For example, in the use of contextual references to inform compositions and the manipulation of visual

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imagery to express ideas, as well as the decision to use warm and cold colours to reflect hope and despair, and in the development leading to the outcome. Highly accomplished and mature **connections** are made between visual and other elements, throughout the submission.

Mark awarded = 22 out of 25 marks