

Commentary on candidate evidence

The evidence for the candidates within this pack has achieved the following marks for this course assessment component.

Candidate 1

Portfolio title: To what extent is nature used by Li Qingzhao within her poetry to convey her emotions during the different stages of her life?

The candidate was awarded **30 marks** because....

Content

The candidate has selected the poetry of 李清照 for his/her literature-based portfolio. The candidate takes an analytical approach using relevant arguments to demonstrate how Li Qingzhao conveys her emotions within her poetry during the different stages of her life. The choice of title generates a critical and analytical response and the candidate consistently demonstrates an understanding of the focus of the study.

Style

There is detailed evidence from the sources to support the title, such as the candidate using the poem 一剪梅. This highlights contrasting moods to express Li Qingzhao's grief for the loss of her husband, while 如梦令 reflects upon the simple and peaceful life led by the young poet. The candidate uses a range of critical terminology such as when analysing the setting of 如梦令. This symbolises the young Li's innocence and simple life and is an allegorical portrayal of the youthfulness and naive character of Li Qingzhao at this stage in her life. The candidate also analyses the tone of the poem using quotations as further evidence to support the study, for example on page 6 "*Nevertheless, the tone again alters through the repetition of the rain 'dripping ceaselessly, dripping ceaselessly,' therefore, 而且有力地烘托了悲凉凄惨觉的气氛*".

Organisation

The evidence from sources supports the conclusions made. Overall, this piece of work is well structured and coherent throughout. The conclusion reflects the title very well and the language is sophisticated. This is an excellent piece of work.

Candidate 2

Portfolio title: “How does the depiction of Zhuge Liang compare in Chen Shuo’s records of the Three Kingdoms, Luo Guanzhong’s Romance of the Three Kingdoms and in John Woo’s Red Cliff”.

The candidate was awarded **21 marks** because....

Content

The candidate has chosen 三国志, 三国演义 for his/her literature-based portfolio and specifically the character 诸葛亮 in the literary sources and also in the article 赤壁之战. The choice of a title involving two novels and a film is quite ambitious, although the candidate is able to show features of an analytical and critical approach with some relevant arguments. The candidate might have been better served by choosing to write about one literary piece and one film or two literary pieces in order to have a narrower focus for an analysis.

Style

The candidate presents some evidence from sources to support the conclusions made. He/she does use critical terminology and the work has relevance to the title.

Organisation

The candidate compares the analysis of Zhu Geliang by three authors but there are some minor weakness in coherence which impact on the overall argument presented. The work has some sense of structure by quoting the three accounts but the work is more descriptive than critical. At the end of the portfolio, the candidate comes to the conclusion that Chen Shou gives the most accurate representation of Zhu Geliang but does not present much evidence for this conclusion.

Candidate 3

Portfolio title: “To what extent did the change to communism in China affect the views of love in poetry?”

The candidate was awarded **9 marks** because.....

Content

The candidate has selected three poems 落叶的爱, 一颗花开的树, 致橡树 as the basis of his/her study and research on communism in China and how this affected the views of love in poetry. The title is too narrow in scope to allow for broader and deeper analysis or to promote an evaluative or critical approach.. Therefore, the candidate has difficulty going beyond a merely informative approach.

Style

The candidate does include quotations and uses some critical terminology, for example *“It symbolises...”*, *“The conclusion of the poem shows that...”* and *“This portrays that...”*.

Organisation

The candidate has done a lot of research on these three poems but there is no obvious coherence linking the three poems with the changes to communism in China.

The work lacks a clear structure and the conclusion is weak and does not relate to the title. The conclusion somewhat contradicts itself with not enough evidence provided to support the assertion that *“Overall all three poems show the chronological change in China and how Taiwan is still very traditional”*.

Candidate 4

Portfolio title: “Ip men”

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because.....

Content

The candidate chose 叶问 as the topic to study and research. He/she has chosen to study one film, supported by a small number of articles relating to it. The title, which simply repeats the title of the film itself, with no question or statement to discuss cannot elicit a critical and analytical response. The candidate adopts too much of a “story-telling” approach and there is little or no critical analysis or evaluation.

Style

The candidate does not use critical terminology and the nature of the informative approach to the study does not appear to foster the use of such terminology. The register is not always appropriate “..there is a guy..” (page 1) and “..so he can get rid of...” (page 2). There are also examples of poor English expression, for example “Due to Ip Men is from a family...” and “... the whole administer system...” (page 2).

Organisation

The candidate has watched the film and also quoted some research online, but some of the work is not relevant to the title. The writing lacks coherence and presents few arguments and conclusions. Indeed, at some points communication is severely impeded by poor structure and expression.