

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

Candidate 1

Portfolio title: Analysis on the themes of immigration and poverty, and the difference between the 'upper' and 'lower classes' explored in 'Novecento' and 'La Leggenda del Pianista sull'Oceano'

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

Content

The candidate has chosen a somewhat wordy title that does not leave much scope to be critical or analytical. The candidate outlines the way in which immigration and poverty are depicted in the novel/film, lapsing therefore into a merely informative approach. The candidate recounts many events of the book/film rather than analysing them, but as already stated the candidate's choice of title does not encourage him to do differently. The candidate has in fact chosen a title that could potentially be divided up into two distinct titles (immigration/the upper and lower classes).

Style

The candidate might have used more secondary sources to support statements made on immigration during the 1900s but instead he tends to make general comments. The quotations chosen from the novel generally back up the statements made by the candidate. The candidate maintains an appropriate register and makes some use of critical terminology (*'which implies', 'the comparison is seen', 'we can see that', 'signifying that', 'suggests that'*).

Organisation

The piece has a sense of structure but the candidate is not able to present and evaluate a series of arguments. The conclusion presents general statements about immigration, poverty and the difference between the social classes that could have been reached without reading the novel/watching the film.

Candidate 2

Portfolio title: 'Io non ho paura' expresses the loss of childhood, moral values and innocence. Discuss.

The candidate was awarded **27 marks** because.....

Content

The candidate has chosen a title which makes clear the focus of the analysis. The candidate takes an analytical approach with reasoned and relevant arguments. The arguments presented are entirely relevant to the title and build up a strong case. At times the candidate tends to recount events but these are mostly used to back up arguments made and reinforce points made.

Style

There is an appropriate use of quotations throughout the piece, which help the reader to follow the arguments made. The candidate has provided an appropriate bibliography, but they could have incorporated into the arguments some of the secondary sources used in order to better support the analysis and give more balance to the piece. The candidate uses a range of critical terminology that strengthens their argument (*'this behaviour immediately grasps the reader's attention', 'this is reinforced', 'the reader is given an insight', 'as if narrating an adventure', 'the reader...feels a sense of relief', 'this exchange shows', 'it could be argued', 'he is portrayed as'*).

Organisation

This is a competent piece of work and has been addressed in a thoughtful manner. The work is well structured and follows a coherent train of thought allowing the reader to understand arguments made. The conclusions drawn are relevant to the title and show appropriate analysis.

Candidate 3

Portfolio title: How does Nicoló Ammaniti explore the theme of morality in 'Io non ho paura'?

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

Content

The candidate has chosen a title which outlines the focus of the study and which should generate an analytical approach. The candidate demonstrates some understanding of the focus of the study but lapses on several occasions into a merely informative approach by lengthy descriptions of the plot and of particular events. The introduction to the piece is too lengthy when in fact it could have been used to set out more clearly the focus of the study.

Style

The candidate presents some evidence from sources to support the arguments made. There are a number of good quotations to support relevant arguments made but on occasion there are some quotations that lack relevance to the arguments the candidate is attempting to present. The candidate maintains an appropriate register and uses some critical terminology (*'can first be observed', 'which further shows', 'is further highlighted', 'this could possibly mean that', 'we start to question'*).

Organisation

Overall, the essay has a sound sense of structure and most of the essay is relevant to the title. Where the work is less relevant, some coherence is lost, having some impact on the overall argument presented, however this does not detract from the overall focus of the study.

Candidate 4

Portfolio title: To what extent is bravery shown by each character throughout the film?

The candidate was awarded **12 marks** because.....

Content

The candidate's choice of title leaves little scope or direct invitation to be analytical or critical. This in turn limits the candidate's approach to the essay. The candidate lapses into an informative approach on many occasions. The candidate's main approach is to describe the bravery shown by the main characters rather than attempting an analytical approach.

Style

The candidate presents some evidence from the main source in an attempt to support the conclusions made. She includes a few quotations from the screenplay but these do not add a great deal to the analysis. She mostly maintains an appropriate register, although lapses like '*way more complicated*' detract from this, and does occasionally use the first person ('*for me*'). There is little critical terminology used ('*becomes even more apparent*', '*effectively depicted*').

Organisation

The candidate does write with some sense of structure and demonstrates writing which is largely coherent. The bibliography is basic (the film and screen play together count as only one source but there is one other in the modern language) and the word count is just acceptable. She presents arguments and attempts to draw conclusions but these do not relate to the title and chosen focus for analysis.