





Advanced Higher Art and Design: Expressive portfolio evaluation			
Candidate name:	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	Candidate number:	XXXXXXXXXX
Centre number:	XXXXXXX		
State your theme or stimulus and give a summary of your creative intentions			
My theme is 'Glacial Landscape'. I am exploring solitude and isolation through this theme. I aim to capture the overwhelming scale of mother nature contrasting with the smallness of humanity on this planet.			
Give a brief explanation of how your contextual analysis relates to your practical work			
I chose to study the Wreck of Hope by Casper David Friedrich as there are some similarities between his artwork and mine and I took inspiration from this piece. I used line to show the sweeping form of the mountains which dominate my compositions, like the geometry used to create the form of the ice in the Friedrich work. I also used a similar visual play in my work as I used similar perspective with the mountain dominating the foreground objects. My work also has a similar colour palette.			
Instructions to candidates			
Evaluate the impact of important creative decisions and the effectiveness of artwork with reference to the theme or stimulus, creative intentions and specific turning points. (6 marks)			
From the beginning of my project, I wished to convey a sense of space and distance in order to communicate a theme of nature's power and scale against that of humanity. I chose to paint a glacier because their solid form and huge size embodied this concept.			
To begin with, the mountains I created were large but lacked texture and were generally painted flat against the canvas. I began adding tone, different colours and experimenting with impasto effects.			
I discovered through my painting on boards and canvas that adding more white paint to indicate snow on the mountains made them appear larger and stand out more. I also decided to add a night sky to create a more isolated atmosphere; this allowed me to use the white snow to contrast the dark background, making the mountains even bolder.			
Towards the end of the project I decided to incorporate trees and fungi into the foreground to make it appear as if the mountains were larger as if the viewer was intruding upon an untouched hidden valley.			
My use of cold and dark colours combined with the perspective that the viewer is looking out upon the scene served to create an atmosphere of serenity and isolation and hopefully the impression that the viewer is looking upon something majestic emphasising the theme of nature's might. I used wide sweeping brush strokes to create a sense of scale and distance which were also used in creating the wide expanse of glacial ice reaching to the foreground which made the mountains appear far away.			
I added fine details into the foreground to contrast with the sweeping form of the background and create a sense of scale adding trees at the base of the glacier to make the mountains and peaks appear bigger.			

AH Expressive Portfolio Commentary: Glacial Landscape	
Section 1 - Practical artwork	
Demonstrating a visually coherent and sustained expressive art enquiry, showing relevant investigative research and development of ideas, leading to the considered resolution of artwork(s)	
Effective	<p>A clearly focussed painting project that creates an imaginative romantic icy landscape. The developing idea is compositionally repetitive but shows an exploration of light, scale and space. There is a careful examination of such details as trees and vegetation. The resolved ideas are wholly in keeping with the consideration of possibilities and the outcomes offer slightly different perspectives on the theme.</p> <p>This is an imaginative theme that sadly lacks imagination in its development. This has much to do with the limited research and source material. In the development, there is a promising photograph of folds of material and the suggestion of creating atmosphere through misty effects that offer alternative thoughts, but the process is rather one dimensional.</p>
Showing a personal applied understanding of art practice by skilfully and creatively using materials, techniques and/or technology to explore and experiment with visual elements	
Effective	<p>In both drawing and brushwork, the candidate has explored a number of techniques. There is light and quite skilful use of watercolour, poster paint, pen, charcoal with acrylic and PVA to create texture and broad-brush experiments with painting wet into wet.</p> <p>Some of the experimentation is lively and skilful such as the textural studies and the detailed pen and ink work that shows a sensitive use of line. The painting studies with a broad brush on canvas and board are rather clumsy, but the final works show that the techniques that have been learned have been successfully brought together.</p>
Section 2 – Contextual analysis	
Selecting an artwork with relevance to their enquiry and discussing the impact of related contexts through analysis of its features	
Highly effective	<p>Though this contextual analysis begins with an odd statement about collapsed buildings, it picks up some analytical points that are well explained and observed. There are good points made about movement, space and scale in which description and effect are combined. The subject of the work forms an easy context and the biographical detail is also relevant. The subject of the Romantic imagination is difficult to cope with in a short space, however, the reference to Frankenstein helps to make this idea clearer. The account intends to finish with a discussion of the Arctic in contemporary art and though the choice of artwork is good, the explanation is rushed.</p>
Section 4 - Evaluation	
Evaluating the impact of important creative decisions and the effectiveness of their artwork with reference to the theme or stimulus, creative intentions and specific turning points	
Partially effective	<p>The candidate does well to explain the idea behind the project and there is some good description of the creative process.</p> <p>There is plenty of scope for evaluating the differences of alternative techniques or compositions, but the candidate makes few evaluative points</p>