

Commentary on candidate evidence

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of the question paper.

Candidate 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **8 marks** for this question.

‘Skull, sea urchins lamp on table by Pablo Picasso
artist’s use of techniques

Light application of paint on right side makes painting look unfinished and painted hurriedly. This shows that Picasso has painted it in a rush in a short time. This shows his desperation to communicate and display his opinions about WW2 as soon as possible.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. An explanation of the painting technique used within the artwork has been provided together with a reason for its rushed application by Picasso.

‘Visible brush marks of grey and white criss-cross on background making it appear like scratch marks. This suggests claw marks on wall which suggest desperation and trying to escape the room. This echoes the feeling during WW2 where people were frantically trying to escape the violence.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. The candidate has identified the use of visible brush marks on the background and has explained what this communicates to the viewer.

‘Objects are painted with a larger than life scale and cramped on the relatively small painting. This suggests a sense of claustrophobia and being trapped. This reflects the intense fear and anxiety people felt during WW2 and not being able to flee the war.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. Although the candidate has provided this comment under the heading of 'techniques', the mark has been awarded for 'mood and atmosphere'. The comment would require further development to gain a mark for techniques, but positive marking ensures that valid comments are awarded, even if the candidate has intended them for a different prompt. In this case, a connection has been made to show how the use of scale has created a claustrophobic atmosphere in the painting.

‘artist’s consideration of mood & atmosphere

The skull is made up of mismatched angular shapes which makes it appear deformed and fractured. This creates an atmosphere of dread and fear of a violent death which mangled their body so horrendously. This could also be dread of new weaponry being used in WW2 (like bombs) which destroyed people’s bodies.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate has connected the angular shapes and deformed appearance of the skull within the painting with an atmosphere of dread and fear.

‘Sea Urchins are painted with expressively large sharp spikes which create an atmosphere of pain and danger. This is as the barbed sea urchins look like medieval maces and make them a symbol of violence and brutality. This echoes the violence and brutality people faced during WW2.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. Referencing the portrayal and symbolic nature of the sea urchins, an example of a dangerous and painful atmosphere has been explained.

‘The use of cubism style which simple geometric shapes and differing angles make the painting appear like shattered glass. This creates an atmosphere of chaos and confusion which reflects the fractured nature of Europe after WW2 and the confusion and chaos of the post-war time.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate has explained how the shattered glass effect of cubism communicates an atmosphere of fear and confusion.

‘The large dark shadow on left looks like a menacing silhouette cast over the table and objects. The shadow symbolises blocking of light and the silhouette the lurking of evil. This echoes the evil and terror the Nazi Party cast over Europe during WW2.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate has provided a valid explanation of the lurking evil atmosphere shown through the large dark shadow. However, the maximum marks have already been awarded for this prompt.

‘impact of social, cultural and/or other influences

Picasso used a black and white colour palette which is influenced by the black & white newsreel footage people would have viewed about WW2 at the time. With this influence Picasso gives the painting a hard-hitting ‘factual’ look.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. The candidate explains the influence of the newsreel and the effect of a limited palette upon the subject matter.

‘Picasso was influenced by ‘memento mori’ images of death which are linked throughout history to times of mass death, turmoil or the plague like the Black death. With this influence Picasso marks the Holocaust and WW2 with the same deadly significance.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Although the candidate has provided an example of a correct influence, no specific reference has been made to the artwork being studied.

‘Picasso was influenced by 17th century vanitas which explores themes of fragility of human life and turmoil. With this influence Picasso reflects on the massive loss of life and chaos the world had just experienced.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. A potential influential factor has been considered regarding vanitas and the exploration of loss, however, the candidate has not made a clear link to the artwork being studied.

'Picasso was raised Catholic and would have been familiar with religious imagery like Christ's crown of thorns. This influenced his painting of the thorns on the sea urchins.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. The influence of religion has been considered within the artwork by referencing Picasso's upbringing and familiarity with religious imagery.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** for this question.

'form

boy is semetrical which creates a contrast with the non semetrical placement of the bottles and cans.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The response for this prompt is limited and further justification is required about form and the effect the contrast has.

'The boy is smooth with no hair or scars this shows his inocence and youth.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment doesn't refer to form, but instead describes the surface qualities of the sculpture and what these suggest. More justification is needed to show understanding of form.

'The boy is standing on a large square which contrast the round edges of the boy and the other objects it also suggests danger as it is relatively small surface area, and the boy could fall off it.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate has provided limited discussion about form whilst also referencing shape. Further analysis needs to be provided about the form of the plinth, as well as the danger mentioned.

'pose

The boy stands with his feet apart which suggests strength as he appears solid and unmoveable.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for pose. A succinct response has been provided regarding the boy's pose and how it connects with strength and solidity.

'boys hands are above his head which suggests discust as he does not want to put his hands in the water.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The response is lacking the necessary justification as to why the boy would not want to place his hands in the water.

'The boy stands straight upright making him pointing is hands above his head like a spear.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment is descriptive with no clear analysis or justification.

'The boy has a blank expression which suggest his bleak future as a result of pollution.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for symbolism. Although the candidate has provided this comment under the heading of 'pose', the mark has been awarded for 'symbolism', applying positive marking. In this case, a clear point has been provided about the boy's expression and its symbolism related to pollution.

'Symbolism

The blue colour on the bottom half suggest water and as it takes up two thirds of the statute it could symbolise rising sea levels.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for symbolism. The candidate has connected the use of colour and its distribution on the statute, with symbolism of rising sea levels.

'The bottles and cans around the boy jostling for room symbolises pollution and the vanishing of clean space as it is swamped by rubbish.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for symbolism. A clear point about the symbolism of the bottles and cans around the boy has been made.

'The boy is nearly naked which symbolises his vulnerability and that he can not protect himself.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment about the boy's clothing is descriptive and further analysis on how this symbolises vulnerability is required.

'The boy putting his hand above his head symbolises that he is trying to get attention and help.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. More justification is needed about the arrangement of the hands and in what way they suggest this interpretation.

'form

The boy has a smooth face with no wrinkles but has bags under his eyes which suggests although he is young he is worried and can't sleep.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate does not refer to specifically form but describes the surface qualities of the boy's face and what this suggests to them.

'The bumps on the body chest make it look like he is thin as you can see his ribs. This suggests a lack of food for the boy.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate makes a descriptive comment that does not specifically reference form. More justification that shows understanding of form is needed.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **8 marks** for this question.

'colour

Citrons are painted with a light yellow the one at the front is the lightest with the ones towards the back shaded through with green suggesting they are not ripe and linking them to the small green lemons that are not fully developed.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for colour. A justified point about the use of colour to link different aspects of the painting together, as well as suggesting the development stages of the lemons.

‘green and brown leaves look dry and are dying. This suggests the lemons have been plucked some time ago.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for colour. A succinct response has been provided about colour, with the candidate connecting the green and brown leaves and what this communicates.

‘warm brown of table and brown spots in wall suggest a warm temperature.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The analysis is limited. Further explanation is required, for example what quality of the brown on the table and wall suggests warmth.

‘white flowers are small and appear fragile. This suggests innocent and calm atmosphere as the colour white is linked to virginity and innocence.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for colour. A justified point is made about the use of white within the artwork and the symbolism this suggests.

‘Subject Matter

The flowers leading on to the small citrons on right leads to large ones in bowl and then to old citrons on left of table and then to seeds on far left suggest the passing of time.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for subject matter. The candidate has connected the various objects throughout the artwork with the passing of time by describing the different stages of the fruit.

‘The bee on citron symbolises fertility as it must germinate the flower for citrons to be created.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for subject matter. A clear point has been made about the placing of the insect on the fruit, and how it communicates symbolism of fertility.

‘The wooden bowl is chipped making it appear old and worn. This creates a sense of nostalgia linking back in time where people used wooden bowls more often.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for subject matter. A valid response has been provided by the candidate discussing the chipped appearance of the bowl linking this with nostalgia.

‘techniques

The painting is split into three vertical sections the light brown table in the foreground and the dark wall in the background. This creates depth and frames the bowl with citrons.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This comment is about composition, which is not a prompt for this question.

‘Artist uses dots of brown throughout painting. This links the background table and citrons creating a harmony and a calm atmosphere.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Although the use of both colour and technique are referenced within this comment, the link is vague, and further development is required for a justified response.

‘Artist uses thin feather like brush strokes on the leaves and branches. This makes them look delicate and light.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. The candidate has provided a justified response about the type of brushstrokes used, and their effect on the leaves and branches.

‘colour

The light colour on the left front top table and top of unrip citrons and large front citrons suggests a light source from above on left side.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. While the response refers to the effect of a ‘light colour’ in suggesting the direction of light source, this is a very general point. More detail is needed about the nature of the colour and how it is used to create this effect.

‘Colours are all muted making the atmosphere of the painting sad and gloomy.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Further comment about how the muted colours connect with the atmosphere, along with a specific reference to where this can be seen within the artwork is required.

‘techniques

The use of tonal variation on the big citrons with dark green, brown going into a lighter yellow gives the illusion of 3-dimensions and a bumpy texture on the fruit.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for colour. Although the candidate has provided this comment under the heading of ‘techniques’, the mark has been awarded for ‘colour’, applying positive marking. In this case, the candidate has referenced the range of colours the artist has used and commented on how this creates texture and form.

‘The painting is relatively small with the bowl taking up most of the painting creates a sense of intimacy as you can view all objects together and it close to foreground making it appear right in front of viewer.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The response refers to composition, which is not a prompt for this question.

‘Thin long lines on bowl make it appear curved giving the illusion of 3-dimensions and a soft wooden texture.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This comment requires further development about the use of techniques and how the thin long lines were created.

‘Subject matter

There is a single be which suggests a calm atmosphere as it is in solitude and is calmly sitting on citron not flying around.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This comment is not fully justified, and further development is required.

Total marks: 20/30