

# Commentary on candidate evidence

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

## Candidate 2

### Question 1

The candidate was awarded **7 marks** for this question.

‘The painting I will be discussing is ‘bleach’ by Jenny Saville. I think this painting is about a woman who has gone through a lot of pain and suffering that she has endured and has ended up broken and damaged as a result.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The introductory comment does not respond to the prompts for this question.

#### ‘Techniques

Saville has used a wet media in this piece - oil paint. This is seen in the wet and smeared technique used on the woman’s hair. The artist has done this as it helps the painting connect the title bleach as it looks like she has been coated in it.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. A connection has been made between the smeared application of media on the woman’s hair and the title of the artwork.

‘Saville has used visible brushwork in this piece. This is seen on the woman’s cheeks. The artist has done this as it helps to give the effect of broken and damaged skin which conveys the viewer the pain and suffering, she has endured.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. The candidate has identified the effect created by the artist’s visible brushwork, and feelings this evokes with the viewer.

‘Lastly, Saville has used a large scale of the overall canvas and the large scale face. This is seen as the canvas is 254 x 186cm and the woman’s face takes up the whole space and only a small amount of background is visible. This has been done as it allows the viewer to see all the small details of the face and see the damaged and bruised skin that Saville has created.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The response discusses scale, which is not a prompt for this question.

#### ‘Mood and atmosphere

Saville has created a melancholic atmosphere in this piece. This has been done to the realistic eyes and the sadness that they bring. This has been done as it allows the viewer to connect and understand the woman and feel sympathy for her because the eyes look like a real person who has been hurt.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate has acknowledged melancholy through the artist's creation of realistic and sad eyes to generate sympathy.

'Saville has created an emotional atmosphere in this piece. This has been done through the small unblended brushstrokes around the eyes. Saville has done this as it helps to show the raw and vulnerable woman as she is in pain and very upset which is shown in the marks on her face.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate has recognised that Saville has communicated vulnerability through unblended brushstrokes around the eyes of the woman, creating an emotional atmosphere.

'Saville has created a dramatic atmosphere in this piece. This has been done due to the large canvas size and the fact it is just a strong woman's face in the whole painting. This has been done to be eye catching and create a large visual impact on the viewer.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate has acknowledged that a dramatic atmosphere has been created through the use of scale and visual impact.

#### 'Social/cultural

Saville has been influenced by Neo-expressionism. This is characterised by large figurative work which is painted at a fast pace. This is seen in 'bleach' as Saville has used large unblended brushstrokes which highlight the fast manner in which she completed it.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. The influence of Neo-Expressionism has been clearly considered within the artwork.

'Saville has been influenced by Feminist art movement. This is characterised by wanting to re-write a falsely male dominated art history. This is seen in Saville's Bleach as she paints a realistic woman without embellishment as they have previously been done.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment is general and what is meant by 'without embellishment as they have previously been done' is not fully explained.

'Saville has been influenced by tabloid newspapers and the terrorisation of woman. This is characterised by the media portraying woman in an untrue and embellished way. This is shown in Saville's work as she paints women and their bodies in a realistic way and contradicts what was previously shown in the media.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Although the candidate has discussed the influence of the media's portrayal of women and its impact upon Saville's work, no specific reference has been made to the artwork being studied.

'Saville has been influenced by Peter Paul Rubens and the Baroque influence. This is characterised by bold unblended work with a high contrast of light and dark. This is seen in Saville's work as she has used more muted tones which

created a high contrast to the red which emphasised her pain and cuts and bruises.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. The influence and style of Rubens has been acknowledged by the candidate with reference made to Saville and her similar approach.

### Question 3

The candidate was awarded **6 marks** for this question.

'I will be discussing '5 Umezebi St., New Haven, Engu' by Njideka Akunyili Crosby. I think this painting is showing a family gathering and highlighting the main generations of the family.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The introductory comment does not respond to any prompt for this question.

#### 'Composition

The artist has created a focal point in this piece. This is seen in the bright orange trousers the tallest man in the room is wearing. This has been done as the bright colour draws the eye in and leads the eye up towards the man and then to the rest of the painting and helps lead the eye around.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for composition. A justified point has been made about the focal point and how it leads the eye up towards the rest of the artwork.

'The artist has used a linear composition in this piece. This is seen as the people are all sitting in a line along the canvas. This has been done as it helps give the painting a flow and makes the viewer gain the full effect of the piece and what is going on as the eye is led from left to right along it.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for composition. A clear point has been made by the candidate discussing the linear composition within the artwork and how it leads the viewer's eye.

'The artist has created a natural candid composition. This has been done as no one is looking at the canvas and some people have been half cut out. The artist has done this as it helps the viewer connect to the situation more and understand as it feels very natural in the way the family are acting.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for composition. A valid response about the candid composition of the figures creating a natural and relatable composition.

#### 'Materials

The artist has used photo transfer in this piece. This is seen on the floor, some clothes and the walls. The artist has done this as it adds a connection to possibly these peoples' family history and helps bring in a theme of generations and create a warm and open sense of family. This has also been done as it creates unity through the painting.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for materials. Reference is made to the photo transfers throughout the artwork suggesting unity and that there is a family history connection.

'The artist has used acrylic paint in this piece. This is seen on the peoples' faces. This has been done as it creates realism and makes the painting become more lifelike helping the viewer connect to the painting as they can understand humans better than a more expressive painting.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment about materials is not fully developed. Further analysis explaining in what way acrylic paint is used to create the 'lifelike' effect is required.

'The artist has used pastel in this piece this is seen in the bright bold solid colour on the man's orange trousers. This has been done as it is eye catching and draws the viewer into the painting and to leading their eye around the painting.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate makes a point about the use of pastels in creating a particular colour in one area. However, the analysis focuses on points about colour and composition that have previously been covered. More detail is needed to show understanding of materials. For example, how this material was used to create the solid colour effect stated, or which qualities of this material lead the candidate to believe they were used to depict the trousers.

#### 'Pattern

The artist has used a linear pattern in this piece. This is seen in the striped curtains and lines on people's shirts/tops. This has been done as it helps as a leading line horizontally and leads the viewers eye around the painting.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for pattern. A valid point has been made about the linear pattern on the curtains and tops, which leads the viewer's eye around the artwork.

'The artist has used a photo transfer pattern of squared pictures. This is seen on the clothes, walls, and floor. This has been done as it helps connect to the theme of family with photos of their family and history while also connecting all areas of the piece, so it goes together and unifies it.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for pattern. Consideration has been given to the effect of the squared pattern throughout the artwork, its connection to the theme of family and history, and how it helps unify the work.

'The artist has used a repeating grid shape of yellow lines. This is seen on the floor and the man's shirt. This has been done to connect all the squares of pattern together and also make the man's shirt look more realistic.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This response about pattern is descriptive with an unjustified statement of the effect. Further detail is needed to show understanding of how the pattern described contributes to the work. For example, in what way the distortion of the pattern on the shirt suggests form, or in what way grid patterns are used to create unity.

## **Question 5**

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

'I will be discussing 'merlin' by Andrew McIntosh. I think this painting is showing someone who lives in a miserable place that they want to leave from and they

feel a sense of hope that soon they will leave and see the beauty of the sunset in a different place.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The introductory comment does not respond to any prompt for this question.

#### 'focal Point

The artist has used bright colours to create a focal point. This is seen in the bright orange sun on the caravan. The artist has done this to draw straight focus to that and then look at the rest of the piece as the rest is more dull and grey the orange stands out more.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for focal point. The candidate has identified a focal point and justified their response by commenting on the contrasting colours used within the artwork.

'The artist has created a focal point by making the caravan look more modern than the rest of the painting. This has been done to make it look out of place that is the first thing the eye is drawn to allowing the viewer to understand the painting.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for focal point. Understanding of focal point is shown through explanation of how the caravan appears out of place in its surroundings and the effect on the viewer's attention.

'The artist has also created this focal point by making the sunset very out of place. This makes it look like it isn't meant to be there making it more eye catching as it is unexpected for the viewer to see this.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for focal point. The discussion around the unexpected and eye-catching sunset within the piece provides an effective comment about focal point.

#### 'Mood and atmosphere

The artist has created a mysterious atmosphere in this piece. This is seen due to all the fog and mist and no real explanation for the image. The artist has done this as it intrigues the viewer and allows them to use their own imagination on what is happening.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. A justified point is made through connecting the unexplained intriguing fog and mist with a mysterious atmosphere.

'The artist has created a dramatic atmosphere in this piece. This has been done due to the abandoned building and all the mist. This creates a dramatic atmosphere as it is as though something scary will jump out of the fog or appear due to the air of mystery and no explanation for any of it.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate justifies a dramatic atmosphere in the artwork by commenting on the abandoned building surrounded by fog and mystery.

'The artist has created a hopeful mood in this piece. This has been done as the sunset act as a light at the end of the tunnel situation. This then makes the viewer hopeful that they will get their opportunity to go and see this instead of their imagination.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate has identified a hopeful mood, and commented on how this has been achieved with the use of the sunset, and the effect this has on the viewer.

‘The artist has created a dream like atmosphere. This is seen due to the blurry background and the dripping of the grass. The artist has done this to help the viewer understand the scenario more and see how this could be someone hoping in their dream for another life.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. Reference has been made to the effects created on the grass and background, and how it generates a dream-like atmosphere.

### Setting

The artist has made this seem like a rural place. This is seen as there aren’t any houses and it looks like a field with a very old fallen building. This has been done to show the dream like scenario that there would be such a new caravan in this place with no people or houses around in order to help support the idea that someone is dreaming or hoping for this to be reality.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for setting. The candidate has identified the rural setting and explained that this has created a dream-like scene.

‘The artist has created a sad and moody setting in this piece. This is seen through the clouds and mist all around and the dark muted palette. This has been done as it shows that this could have been painted in a place with frequent unfortunate weather which is why this person is dreaming of a new reality with sunsets rather than clouds.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment is not awarded a mark for setting, as it requires further development in order to achieve a mark for this prompt. Although a justified point about the connection between the sad mood and the weather has been made, the candidate has already achieved the maximum 4 marks for mood and atmosphere.

‘The artist has created a depressing setting. This has been done through the use of dull grey tones. This has been done as it allows the viewer to feel and understand the message of hope in an unhappy place better.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate refers to tones used to create the setting and states an effect on the viewer, the response is very general and needs more specific detail to show understanding of how setting contributes to the work.

**Total marks: 21/30**