

# Commentary on candidate evidence

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

## Candidate 3

### Question 1

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

‘An artwork I have studied is George Braque’s ‘A clarinet and a bottle of rum on the mantelpiece’ painted in 1911.’

‘Artist’s use of techniques

Braque uses an impasto technique applying the paint in short, thick brushstrokes all throughout the painting, which unifies the composition. The impasto technique also creates an actual texture as the brushstrokes are applied thickly drawing the viewers eye to it. The short flat brushstrokes also emphasise the flat reality of the painting as it lacks depth and there is no foreground, midground or background.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. A comment is made about the use of the impasto technique and its effect on the composition.

‘Braque outlines his subject matter, specifically the clarinet with thick black lines. The application of the paint is loose and sketchy meaning that the black lines are fragmented making the painting look more messy and less realistic.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. An explanation has been given about the loose paint application used to outline the subject matter, and how this creates an effect of a fragmented look.

‘Braque also uses oil paint which is traditionally used for smooth blending as it dries slowly. Braque did not attempt smooth blending and applied the paint heavily with visible brushstrokes making the painting less realistic.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate has provided a general comment about oil paint application with no analysis provided about the effect Braque’s approach had upon the work.

‘Impact of social, cultural and/or other influences

Braque was influenced by the work of Paul Cezanne as he painted compositions from slightly different point of view, typical of the cubist style. The fragmented objects can be seen as the clarinet appears to be of the same size from the barrel to the bell but if accurate perspective was used, we would see more of one side and less of the other.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences.

By referencing viewpoint and the use of perspective on the clarinet, the influence of Cezanne on Braque’s work has been identified.

'Braque was influenced by the theme of music as we can see musical notation (bass clef) below the word 'valse' which translates to waltz, suggesting the energy associated with music and dancing. There are two thick black leading lines in the painting which draw the viewers eye from the bottom left to top right giving the painting a sense of action as well as the association of energy from music, dancing and drinking rum.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. A clear explanation about the influence of music and its associated energy has been made, referencing examples within the work.

'Braque was influenced by Cubism. Braque's abandonment of accurate perspective means that the subject matter appears fragmented and broken up into angular shapes. This cubist style takes away the depth from the painting making it hard to establish a foreground, midground or background.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. Cubism has been identified as an influence, and reference to aspects where cubism is seen in the artwork studied has been made.

'Braque was influenced by the study into the 'western view' where it reveals that most people view imagery from left to right. Braque used two leading lines from left to right meaning that the viewer to view the painting naturally.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. The candidate has explained the influence of the 'western view' using an example of the leading lines within the work to justify this point.

'Artist's consideration of mood and atmosphere

Braque used a restricted palette with mostly cold colours of blues, blacks, whites, greys, yellows, browns all over the painting. The lack of warm colours like reds and oranges makes the painting feel sinister and gives it a solemn atmosphere.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. The candidate has commented on the restricted cold palette to explain the solemn atmosphere of the artwork.

'Braque used sharp black lines throughout the painting creating angular shapes. These dark, sharp shapes create a more volatile atmosphere and convey a sense of danger and darkness within the painting.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for mood and atmosphere. A justified connection has been made between the angular black lined shapes within the artwork, and how these contribute to a volatile atmosphere.

'The use of musical notation and the word 'valse' giving the painting an association with dancing as well as drinking gives the painting an upbeat atmosphere due to the happiness associated with drinking, listening to music and dancing.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This point is a repetition of a previous comment made about musical notation by the candidate.

### Question 3

The candidate was awarded **5 marks** for this question.

#### 'Composition

There appears to be eleven figures throughout the artwork which take up most of the composition. The repeated image of the people gives the work a radial balance.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Further justification regarding radial balance within the image is required in order to achieve a mark.

'The viewpoint of the work is straight on at eye level, meaning we can see the real-life scenario making the work feel more realistic.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The point is not fully developed, and more consideration about the impact of this compositional technique is necessary.

'The lines created from the corner of the wall where the two walls meet with the ground creates 3 lines which lead back to the centre of the painting and the focal point of the man as he is also of biggest size due to the perspective, making him the focal point.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for composition. The candidate has analysed the focal point of the man through considering leading lines and perspective.

#### 'Materials

The use of the xerox transfers mostly on the right side and lower half of the work makes the composition flat and lacking depth and detail making parts less realistic.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for materials. The use of xerox transfers has been considered alongside its effect on the artwork.

'The use of acrylic on the figure's orange trousers in the foreground makes them bright and opaque, which contrasts to the skin colour on the feet and face, making the trousers stand out, making them the focal point.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for materials. The candidate has commented upon the use of opaque orange acrylic paint on the trousers that contrast with the skin colour, creating a focal point.

'The charcoal, pastel and coloured pencils create less of an opaque look and can create different tones to give realism and depth which can be seen in the persons blue trousers in the foreground as they have a 3D realistic look.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for materials. A justified point has been made about the use of various materials on the blue trousers and its impact on depth and realism.

#### 'Pattern

The repeated transfers of photographs create an irregular pattern in the painting as all of the pictures are different images and different sizes but are all of similar warm colours like reds and pinks adding to the relaxed and happy atmosphere.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for pattern. The irregular pattern created by the warm-coloured transfers to create a relaxed atmosphere has been noted by the candidate.

‘The repeated use of the cream colour in the figures clothes and on the couch brings a sense of community to the painting as the repeated cream motif unifies the painting.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Referencing the use of cream is a comment about colour which is not a prompt for this question. More discussion about the cream colour in relation to pattern is required to achieve a mark.

‘The repeated striped pattern, on the kids tops, curtains and focal figures shirt evokes a sense of a carefree and happy mood contributing to the nostalgic atmosphere.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This point has not been fully explained and more discussion about how the use of stripes create a happy, carefree and nostalgic mood is needed to achieve a mark.

## Question 4

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

‘Colour

The choice of a dark black background makes the focal point of the yellow lemons and green grapes to contrast and stand out emphasising the focal points.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for colour. A justified point about contrasting colours to create a focal point has been made.

‘The choice of painting the lemons yellow and grapes green as well as the branches brown and leaves green in the focal point makes the painting realistic as we know this is the actual colours of these objects.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This comment is descriptive and not been fully developed. Further analysis about the use of colour to create realism is required.

‘The choice to paint the small flowers, located in the centre foreground and left side of the composition, white means that they stand out against the bright yellow lemons and the brown table and black background making them another focal point as the viewers eye is drawn there next.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for colour. A point is made about the white flowers against the yellow lemons and brown table creating a focal point.

‘The use of darker and lighter shades of yellow in the lemons in the focal point allows for the lemons to have depth and tonality making them realistic.’

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

‘The use of multiple different shades and tints of green in the leaves gives them a more mottled and erratic colour emphasising their shape creating realism and adding to the overall visual impact.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment requires further justification regarding the use of green colours on the effect on the artwork.

Subject matter

‘The wasp-like insect on the lemon connotes nature and stands out against the yellow lemon making it a focal point.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate has not fully justified how the wasp stands out to make it a focal point.

‘The flowers in the foreground and midground give the painting a more beautiful element making it more attractive for the viewer.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate has not explained in what way the flowers give the painting a beautiful effect.

‘The choice to paint branches with leaves which are from the lemon tree add an organic feel to the composition as well as the inclusion of flowers adding a whimsical and organic atmosphere to the painting.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for subject matter. Consideration has been given to the branches, leaves and flowers within the artwork and how they convey an organic atmosphere.

Techniques

The use of Tempura paint meant that the colours were blended smoothly and allowed for darker tones to be smoothly blended to give the painting depth which we can see in the ripples of the lemon making it more realistic.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. A point is made about the smooth blending of paint on the lemons to create depth and realism.

‘The technique of using extra thin lines on the branches adds to the visual texture making them look more detailed and realistic.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. A succinct point has been made about the thin lines on the branches to create visual texture.

‘The pointillist technique used is shown all over the painting but specifically in the grapes where different hues can be speckled sparsely into the greens like brighter greens and yellows adding to the tonality and depth and giving the painting an exciting and surrealist feel.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for techniques. A justified comment about the use of pointillism to create tone and depth has been made.

**Total marks: 19/30**