

Commentary on candidate evidence

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

Candidate 4

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **10 marks** for this question.

'I have studied 'Between the Lines' by Iris Van Herpen.

Van Herpen has used soft 3D hand-casted polyurethane (PU) fabric to create the main structure of her design. This is one part liquid plastic, one part catalyst and upon being mixed together these form a durable and flexible material. This allowed her to make a sturdy design with high impact without restricting the movement of the model.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for working methods. An explanation has been provided about the hand-casted polyurethane used, and how it impacts the structure of the design.

'Van Herpen also chose to use a laser cutter to create a mould of engraved patterns. Black PU was then injected into this mould and clear PU was poured over it once dry. This method allowed her to make precise and repetitive patterns within her design which would be time consuming to do so intricately by hand.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for working methods. A response has been provided about the use of technology within the design, and how it allowed the designer to make precise engraved patterns.

'Finally, as heating PU fabric can be unpredictable, Van Herpen opted to use the less used hand heat-forming process. This was done over several weeks and led Van Herpen's design to be sculpted to the model. This method ultimately ensured it was ergonomically suitable.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for working methods. An explanation about the preferred method of a hand heat forming process has been discussed.

'Van Herpen considered style when choosing the colour scheme of her design.

The limited colour palette of opaque and black glossy pattern creates a stark contrast and makes the design chic and bold. This allowed van Herpen to have a contemporary style with her design.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for style. The contemporary style has been considered referencing the contrasting colour palette of the chic and bold design.

'She also considered style through her use of optical illusions. The black inlaid lines created by the laser cutter distort with the movement of the wearer, allowing for a mesmerising and hypnotic style to be communicated.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for style. The candidate has identified a hypnotic style created through optical illusions and distortion of movement.

‘Van Herpen continued to consider style in her design when deciding on the oversized elements of her design. The large, curved forms emulating the hips and shoulders exaggerate the movement of the piece, making a dynamic and eye-catching style.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for style. The dynamic style has been recognised through discussion of the exaggerated large, curved forms within the design.

‘Van Herpen also considered style when deciding on the layout of her design. The design is horizontally and vertically symmetrical, made with one length of fabric. This permits for a seamless and balanced style to be illustrated.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This comment is descriptive, and further justification of how symmetry and balance contribute to a specific style is required..

‘Van Herpen was influenced by the beauty of imperfections found in systems and structures. This led her to focus particularly on the gaps in between these structures. This resulted in a huge impact of her design as the patterns and illusions made by negative space plays a significant role in her design.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. A point is made about the influence of imperfection and the use of negative space in the design.

‘Van Herpen was also influenced by science. She was impacted by the growth and ‘blips’ in science and this imagery can be seen in the organic use of free-moving shape and curvature in her design, alongside the patterns created by the black inlaid lines to make a natural but intriguing aesthetic.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. The candidate has discussed the influential factor of science and how this has impacted the designer to make a natural aesthetic.

‘Furthermore, innovations in technology can also be seen impacting her work. Her choice of using a laser cutter to create a mould for the PU fabric was an example of how recent technology is intertwined in her work. This allowed her to create a visually impactful design with a futuristic style, showing the influence of technology in her design.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. The candidate has recognised the impact of innovative technology on Van Herpen’s work.

‘Van Herpen was also influence by artist Esther Stocker. Stocker manipulates line and geometric shape to alter our perceptions of the art. Stocker and Van Herpen collaborated on the ‘Between the Lines’ runway and her influence can be seen in Van Herpen’s manipulation of built-up negative space and black inlaid lines to create optical illusions.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for social, cultural and/or other influences. A point has been made about how Stocker's direct influence can be seen upon Van Herpen's design, particularly in the creation of optical illusion.

'Finally, Van Herpen trained as a dancer from a young age and she has spoken previously about how this has affected her work. It's impact can be seen in her fascination with movement created in her dynamic design and her interest in how the garment interacts with body upon movement.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Although a justified point about the influence of dance and movement on Van Herpen's work has been made, the candidate has already achieved the maximum 4 marks for social, cultural and/or other influences.

Question 8

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

'Style

The design has an eye-catching style due to the use of pattern combined with brightly coloured stripes. This makes it visually interesting as the viewers eyes are drawn to such extravagant style.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for style. A justified point has been made about the extravagant style, referencing the pattern brightly coloured stripes within the design.

'The limited colour palette of black and white with occasional pop of colour, yellow, allows for a retro style as it communicates an aesthetic inspired by pop-art.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for style. A succinct point has been made about the limited colour palette and retro style within the design.

'Furthermore, the flared bottoms of the jumpsuit again indicate a vintage style as it is similar to outfits worn by performers of the 80s and 90s disco eras.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Further analysis on why the outfit is similar to that of a disco era is required.

'The circular swirled collar structure which flows down into the arms conveys a sense of fluid motion, giving the piece a dynamic style.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate discusses the collar structure as having a fluid nature. However, they do not clearly connect this with being dynamic, and further consideration about how this style is created is needed.

'The symmetry of the yellow lines down both legs give a sense of balance to the design, amongst the chaotic pattern. This allows for a structured style among the busy pattern.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for style. A justified point connecting the symmetry of the lines with a structured style.

'Target market

The target market for individual buyers of this design will be limited as a result of its stand-out-of-the-crowd aesthetic and unusual pattern and style. However, those who are interested in more outlandish clothing such as performers like Björk would appeal to this design as it is a statement piece indicating their bold personal style.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for target market. A point is made about the appeal of the design to performers with bold personal style.

'Furthermore, if this piece were to be worn on a runway, the designer has effectively considered target market as potential fashion stylists and critics as well as viewers would appeal to this design due to its eye-catching style and the presence the oversized collar would make on a catwalk.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for target market. The candidate has identified stylists, critics and viewers as a potential target market, as the jumpsuit's oversized collar would be eye-catching during a catwalk show.

'Wearability

The piece is made from recycled acrylic knit meaning it would be comfortable and not irritate the skin of the wearer.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This comment has not been developed fully and further consideration of the impact the fabric would have on the wearer is required.

'The design is a jumpsuit so it would most likely be substantially difficult to take on and off, especially with the large sleeves and collar which would restrict movement hence the wearability is limited as you would need assistance.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for wearability. A clear point has been made about the limitations of the jumpsuit due to its large sleeves and collar.

'Furthermore, wearability is limited as the long flowing bottoms of the legs would be more suitable for a taller wearer as if you were too small, they would likely trail and become a hazard.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for wearability. Recognition of the potentially hazardous nature of the long flowing legs has been made.

'Finally, as much as the oversized elements of the collar provide presence and impact it would restrict the movement of the wearer's neck and become uncomfortable or stuffy, limiting its wearability.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. Further consideration is necessary about how the collar's oversized elements restrict movement.

'The unusual and bold pattern and colour make the design a statement piece which limits the wearability as it would be hard to style and an occasion which merits the wearing of such design is rare meaning the wearability is unlikely at best.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The candidate has not fully considered wearability within this point and further comment about when this design could be worn in is needed.

Question 12

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

‘decoration

The crown is decorated extremely intricately with many minute details which makes the crown look more valuable as the time taken to make such precise details increases the more you look at it.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment is vague as it lacks specific reference to the decoration discussed.

‘The crown has small areas of pink and blue which provide contrast in the decoration and allow the crown more visual impact than if it were to be entirely one colour.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. This point is limited and more specific discussion about the decoration on the crown is needed.

‘Furthermore, the use of semi-precious stones to decorate the crown again increased the air of wealth about the crown as it adds these gems to initial price.’

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment is vague and further specific analysis of decoration is necessary.

‘Finally, the gold structure on the top of the design furthers the feel of royalty and prestige as it mimics that shape which can be seen on your typical example of a crown and other famous jewels such as the crown jewels.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for decoration. A point is made relating the structure on top of the crown to the crown jewels.

‘Wearability

The wearability is limited due to the use of materials. Expensive materials like gold and precious stones mean that the wearer would have to be important and most likely royalty, meaning the wearability is limited as it’s not accessible headwear.’

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

‘Furthermore, the wearability is limited due to the weight of the crown. Over 2 kilograms is very heavy to hold on your head meaning that the length of time you could wear it for is significantly limited before it began to hurt.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for wearability. A justified point has been provided about limited wearability due to the weight of the crown.

‘The wearability is also limited as it doesn’t seem to have any kind of padding or cushioning and carrying metal on your head without any soft padding would again make the crown very uncomfortable and prevent wearability.’

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for wearability. A valid comment has been made about the lack of padding and its impact on comfort.

‘Sources of inspiration

The designer may have taken inspiration from reptiles such as snakes as the winding position of blue stones around the rim imitates that of a snake's scales which continues around the back in gold as well.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for sources of inspiration. The candidate has identified reptiles as a source of inspiration, specifying the the blue stones around the crown resembling snake scales.

'The designer could have also been inspired by other aspects of nature as the décor on the front looks like wisping clouds and the stones are placed in a way that looks like blooming plants or flowers. This gives a naturalistic feeling to the materialistic crown.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for sources of inspiration. A clear analysis identifying aspects of the crown appearing like clouds and flowers, and contributing to a naturalistic feeling.

'The design may also have been inspired by religion as it's named 'Vajracarya Priest's crown' and main imagery seen on it is a Buddha-like figure with crossed legs, repeated around the crown.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for sources of inspiration. The candidate has recognised that the buddha imagery around the piece, along with the name of the crown, is inspired by religion.

'Finally, the crown may be inspired by royalty in general as the significance of gold in the design gives a great air of comfort and wealth, the colour being symbolic of money and luxury.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for sources of inspiration. A point is made about the inspiration of royalty, linking it with the use of gold and its symbolic nature of luxury and wealth.

'The crown is decorated in a 3-dimensional way with none of the design being engraved into the structure. This creates presence and visual impact.'

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**. The comment is not fully developed, and further analysis of the decoration is required.

Total marks: 24/30