



Process: 10/10
30/30
Skills: 20/25
25/25
Sub-total: 85/90
Evaluation: 9/10
TOTAL: 94/100

Higher Art and Design

Expressive portfolio - evaluation

Instructions to candidates

You should reflect on and critically evaluate the creative process you followed when working through your expressive portfolio. In your evaluation give justified personal opinions on:

- ◆ the decisions you made when working through your portfolio
- ◆ the effectiveness of the visual qualities of your portfolio, referring to your theme/stimulus (10 marks)

I chose the theme of 'along the river' after being inspired by a local river where I'd take my dog out on walks. In investigation I used coloured pencil and practiced drawing rocks I found in the river up close including all the intricate detail where the river met the rock. I decided to use coloured pencil again since I enjoyed it so much to experiment more with the rocks, movement in the water and branches in a view looking down at the river which I think added spatial awareness to the piece.

In development I continued to use coloured pencil since I developed skills in my investigation that I wanted to continue to work on. I really wanted to focus on detail in the water as I found this the most challenging previously. I made these pieces full compositions with my least favourite developments subject matter focusing on the rocks creating depth in the drawing which lead to the background being the back of the riverbank which I struggled to draw since there is not much detail to be seen. I am proud of how the water worked out with the blue from the sky reflecting off it quite nicely. I also wanted to develop the background since i believe this wasn't so successful before. I created the different types of trees using different shades of greens and yellows. This technique allowed the focal point to move to not so much be on the rocks like before instead on the river flowing into the distance amidst the trees.

In my final piece I wanted to create a peaceful atmosphere, I blended warm colours into the rocks and chose to make the water blue as I liked the idea of it reflecting a clear calm sky, one of the main focuses was the background since I wanted it to keep the realism flowing throughout the composition since I became aware that this was a weakness of mine in the development stage. I used a very fine black pencil to create the shadows in the water with my strong use of shading which added a nice touch of realism to the piece since it suggested movement in the river.

I found drawing the rocks so close up in investigation quite difficult as this was new to me however I began playing around with the use the colours as undertones in the rocks and the use of layered shading in the water which made the visual element subtly colourful. Focusing on using the warm colours in the rocks, I also included some lighter blues where the rocks met the water to emphasise the rocks being wet or being partially covered by the water. One thing I noticed was that I could've made the reflections in the water in one of the developments smaller since having them at the size they were at put the rocks out of proportion to be a lot smaller than what they were and the river lost its realism since they looked too big so next time I will keep that in mind and consider the realistic size of the rocks and the reflections so I can avoid making this mistake again.

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 2 – Along the River

Section 1 - expressive portfolio - process

This portfolio shows highly relevant investigative research.

The investigative research is highly focused as seen through the analytical studies of rocks and the flow of water. Both studies are highly relevant and clearly linked to the rest of the portfolio.

This aspect was awarded 10 of the 10 marks available.

This portfolio shows highly effective development and refinement of one idea leading to the production of a final piece.

This a highly focused portfolio showing a clear line of enquiry. The exploration of media and compositional elements result in a highly resolved final piece.

This aspect was awarded 30 of the 30 marks available.

Section 2 - expressive portfolio - skills

This portfolio shows highly effective use of appropriate materials, techniques and/or technology in response to their theme.

The candidate has demonstrated highly effective use of coloured pencils showing a high level of control particularly within the rocks and water. The use of techniques has been well considered to show an understanding of texture and reinforce the theme of running water. The foliage and trees seen within each of the compositions are not as resolved, lacking the control of media handling as seen in the riverbed.

This aspect was awarded 20 of the 25 marks available.

This portfolio shows highly effective use of visual elements and expressive effects in response to their theme.

There has been creative and skilful application of the visual elements. The candidate has shown consideration of viewpoint and use of space to enhance the mood and atmosphere, whilst also suggesting movement of the water against the rocks. Varied exploration of viewpoints shows full consideration of the subject matter, the candidate has demonstrated clear engagement with the theme.

This aspect was awarded 25 of the 25 marks available.

Section 3 - expressive portfolio - evaluation

This expressive evaluation shows fully justified and detailed critical evaluation of the effectiveness of decisions and the visual qualities of their portfolio, with clear reference to their theme.

The candidate makes clear reference to the choice of materials and techniques used, and how these were developed throughout the portfolio in order to interpret the theme.

This evaluation was awarded 9 of the 10 marks available.

Total: 94 marks