



Process: 10/10  
16/30  
Skills: 13/25  
15/25  
**Sub-total: 54/90**  
Evaluation: 7/10  
**TOTAL: 61/100**

# 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)

### African Still Life

For my expressive portfolio I decided to do still life on an African theme. I wanted to develop my art abilities so I chose to use lino, as I have previously found it a tricky technique. I personally liked the idea of the bold graphic look, which is complimentary of the African style patterns I was representing.

### Developments

I used the Lino technique for most of my developments since it was successful at creating large areas of flat, bold colour. For my first Lino development I drew out the succulent which has three layers, black, light green and dark green, I decided to give that development and orange background since it effectively contrasts the light green highlights of the leaves.

In other developments I used a brown ink with fine glitters in it, this was effective as it represents the earthy nature of the objects I was printing. The highlighted areas in the white is to showcase the predominant sections and features of the print. Whereas the brown displays different mid tones giving the print more dimension and contrast. However, the black tones represents a sense of depth and darkness to the print giving it a more cultural and traditional feel.

For my next development which includes all of the objects I decided to use black ink directly onto a pre painted colour background. This was successful at bringing the colour of the fabrics, the plant and the background in the piece, effectively giving a print and vibrant mood to the piece. Using the colours blue, orange and green made the print look more traditional. I tried a small section where I painted the black ink on after the print, but this didn't give the same effect.

### Final Piece

Since this would be my last and biggest piece I intended to do a combination of two of my previous developments where I used brown and black printing ink in one, and blue, orange and green ink in another. I combined both ideas together to create my final piece and it turned out to look very bright, warm and cultural. I believe that the symmetrical composition and the middle placement of the succulent is very effective since it can draw the viewers eye right onto it instantly, whilst acting as leading lines drawing your eye to the objects. All the different sorts of patterns in the background make the print look busy but it gives a warm cozy sort of look. The bright peachy table is what gives the print a warm cozy feel since the colour bright and takes up almost half the print. Doing the Lino cut process it was hard for me to make a sort of blended look to the shadowed part of the objects however I eventually started to get the hang of it and it became manageable for me to get that hatched sort of shadow. The use of cold blue in the background contrasts with the peach table which gives off a mix of feelings like an intense warmth look since the peach takes up half of the print, this almost takes over the blue. Overall, despite the challenging Lino

process I am pleased with my final piece since it provides the viewers with more to look at and experience for themselves.

# Commentary on candidate evidence

## Candidate 5 – African Still Life

### Section 1 - expressive portfolio - process

This portfolio shows highly relevant investigative research.

The candidate has conducted highly relevant and focused research studies of still life objects which feature throughout the portfolio. This work includes a number of analytical drawings of objects from different angles which help to set the scene for the development work to follow.

This aspect was awarded 10 of the 10 marks available.

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

The candidate demonstrates an effective single line of development by combining the individual still life objects into group arrangements. However this process is fairly repetitive, with the same groupings repeated. These developments effectively progress to the final piece. This process could be refined by further considering visual continuity.

This aspect was awarded 16 of the 30 marks available.

### Section 2 - expressive portfolio - skills

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

The candidate has used printmaking techniques to effectively explore the theme of African Still Life and has successfully explored mark making through experimentation with the printing process. The quality of some of the print making is varied bringing the portfolio just into the effective marks range for this section.

This aspect was awarded 13 of the 25 marks available.

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

The candidate has creatively and skilfully explored the visual elements in particular line and pattern, to create a vibrant mood and atmosphere. The natural colour palette and the textures considered also help to convey the African inspiration for the portfolio.

This aspect was awarded 15 of the 25 marks available.

### **Section 3 - expressive portfolio - evaluation**

This expressive evaluation shows critical evaluation of the decisions made and the effectiveness of the visual qualities of their portfolio.

The candidate has made justified critical evaluations of their decision-making process, with reference to their theme of 'African Still Life'. Reflective points have been made and marks have been awarded accordingly.

This evaluation was awarded 7 of the 10 marks available.

**Total: 61 marks**