



Process: 10/10
13/30
Skills: 13/25
12/25
Sub-total: 48/90
Evaluation: 4/10
TOTAL: 52/100

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)

The theme I have chosen for my expressive portfolio is 'Growing Up with Siblings'. I choose to base my work off this theme as I wanted to express and appreciate the close bond siblings undeniably have, no matter how much they argue, or fight, they are the person or people who will stay by your side all throughout your life. The subjects of my work include myself, my younger brother and my older sister.

I began my research and investigation by sourcing images online of paintings and drawings of siblings, to try and help me have a clearer idea of how I wanted to develop my ideas to produce my final outcome. The first study I did was a recent picture of myself and my brother. The medium I chose for this piece was coloured pencils. I personally prefer not to use coloured pencil, it's a medium I don't feel particularly comfortable or skilled with, this then meant the piece took me a lot longer to complete than I predicted. If I could return to the situation I would do things differently as I feel I didn't manage my time correctly.

As I began my development I used a variety of media such as watercolour, acrylic paint, tonal pencil and coloured pencil to detail my pieces. By experimenting with different media I felt I did best when using tonal pencil, this being the reason why the majority of my pieces are in this medium. I felt comfortable with it and felt since there was such detailing in the photos I chose to use it was the best media to really achieve the level of depth I needed to correctly replicate the images. I wanted to try a different technique for one of my pieces. I used acrylic paint to do a lino print. The photo I used for it was in black and white and was taken with flash which made it a lot easier to identify the light and dark areas of the picture.

Unfortunately something did go wrong with the piece, I suspect the paint might have been too thick or I may have applied too much to the lino. It created a textured finish to the piece and also would not dry, even after weeks of completion. I therefore have put clingfilm over it to prevent it from transferring onto any of my other work. Another slight issue I found when doing my development pieces, more because of my lack of skill, I found it quite difficult to do the faces of myself and my siblings since it was such a small area to try and achieve such great detail, however, progressing through my portfolio I feel I made some slight improvements and that it benefited me when doing my final outcome.

When it came to my final outcome I was inclined to use a piece from my previous experiences with it, however, I didn't want my final piece to lack that vibrant pop of colour so I decided to use a variety of media. The picture I chose was one of myself and my brother, at the top of Ben Wyvis, a mountain not too far from where we live. The background includes the vast landscape of hills, which I did in tonal pencil to once again achieve the level of details required. The rest of my final piece I did in acrylic paint, and coloured pencil, for the details on my brother's top. When it came to the hair I wanted it to be more textured than the rest of the image, both myself and my brother had very

bright auburn hair as young children and i really wanted to capture the variety of colours aswell as the highlights and shading. I will admit I did find the faces quite difficult, it may just be a skill I lack and if I could go baack I'd of practised a little more in preparation of doing my final outcome. I wasnt sure how the mix of media would turn out when i began my piece, but I feel the contrast in media and colour make the piece more visually interesting.

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 6 – Growing Up with Siblings

Section 1 - expressive portfolio - process

This portfolio shows highly relevant investigative research.

The candidate has conducted highly relevant and focused research studies of portraits which feature through the portfolio, alongside researching relevant artist work. This helps to set the theme and give a clear focus for the portfolio.

This aspect was awarded 10 of the 10 marks available.

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

While the candidate successfully explores the theme of siblings, the images produced are more in line with a series of snapshots featuring different people rather than developing the more focused initial idea of the double portrait. This makes the portfolio appear disjointed, leading towards the final piece. It is therefore partially effective in the refinement of a single idea.

This aspect was awarded 13 of the 30 marks available.

Section 2 - expressive portfolio - skills

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

The candidate has explored a wide range of materials throughout the portfolio including pencil, coloured pencil, acrylic, watercolour, and lino cutting. At the development stage the main focus is on tonal pencil studies, however the final outcome piece is painted. This creates a missed opportunity at the development stage for the candidate to further develop their painting skills.

This aspect was awarded 13 of the 25 marks available.

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

As the candidate has selected to work from a number of snapshot style images at the development stage, the compositional development through the portfolio is not fully resolved leading towards the final piece. The candidate has successfully explored tone, shape and proportion in some studies. However, this is not consistent throughout the portfolio.

This aspect was awarded 12 of the 25 marks available.

Section 3 - expressive portfolio - evaluation

This expressive evaluation shows partially justified personal opinions showing critical evaluation of the decisions made and the effectiveness of the visual qualities of their portfolio.

The candidate has made partially justified evaluative comments relating to their choice of theme and the effectiveness of their working process throughout the portfolio. Further comments are made relating to the effectiveness of their chosen media.

This evaluation was awarded 4 of the 10 marks available.

Total: 52 marks