

Candidate 3 – Deep in Thought



Process	10/10
	24/30
Skills	20/25
	20/25
Sub-total	74/90
Evaluation	10/10
TOTAL	84/100

Higher Art and Design Evaluation	Expressive portfolio
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Candidate name:		Candidate number:	
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Centre number:	
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Instructions to candidates

You should reflect on and 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)

In my final piece, I have chosen to use acrylic paint and coloured pencil. I chose to use these materials because these are where my strengths are found, and they give my piece a strong visual texture. The acrylic paint allowed my colours to be well blended and the pencil on top was useful for emphasising the highlights and shadows. This can be seen especially on the shirt in the painting, the contrast between the highlights and dark shadows created by the creases of the shirt are built up by lots of thin layers of the acrylic paint to create depth, and are given a smoother texture by the use of the pencil. I used various brush sizes in the process of painting my piece, which helped create various visual details in for instance, the hair of both of the figures. I used a thicker brush for the wash of the background, which created a more loose and relaxed look than the tighter and more controlled brushstrokes throughout the rest of the painting.

In the background of my final piece I used a light wash of dark orange paint to create less empty space and to push forward the two figures in the foreground. This allowed a subtle fade from the bright red of the shirt, into the orange that was a similar colour, but was much thinner and faded well into the dark red paper I used.

The two figures in my piece have contrasting appearances. The front facing figure on the left of the piece was done in black and white pencil, with a light washing of paynes grey paint over the darker areas. This figure blends into the background of the piece and behind the figure on the right, and its shadowy appearance adds depth into the painting and pushes the other figure into the foreground.

The figure on the right is much brighter because it was done in coloured paint and pencil. This created an obvious contrast because of the dark colour of the paper and the more monochrome tone of the figure on the left. This divided the painting into two halves, but the similarity between the postures of the figures and the painting techniques used ties it together. The shoes of the figure on the right help to frame the painting, and the small amount of colour on the socks matches the colour of the shirt, which helps to guide viewers eyes around the painting. The composition of my piece is relatively unorganised, but this adds to the relaxed atmosphere shown by the figures resting their heads on their hands. The legs of the figure on the left create leading lines up to the face of the figure on the right, and the darkness of them contrasts with the paleness of the face of both figures.

My original idea was to create an atmosphere of contrasting moods and of feelings of uncertainty. I think I managed this well, due to the vibrant colours contrasting with the monochrome colours, and because of the posture of the figures who look as though they are pensive and deep in thought.

Higher Expressive Portfolio Commentary		
Portfolio: Deep in Thought		
Section 1 - Expressive Portfolio - Process		
Producing relevant and focused 2D/3D analytical drawings, studies and investigative research appropriate to their theme or stimulus and their line of development		
Limited relevance		The candidate has shown highly relevant and focused investigative research and analytical studies which set the scene for the development of the rest of the folio.
Partially relevant		
Relevant		
Highly relevant	10/10	
Demonstrating a single line of focused development, showing visual continuity and the refinement of one idea, and producing a final piece		
Limited effectiveness		A highly effective single line of enquiry through the development process and leading towards the final outcome is evident. The candidate refines the idea of the figure sitting <i>Deep in Thought</i> , however the idea of the double portrait only appears within the final outcome, leading to some missed opportunities within the development stage of the folio.
Partially effective		
Effective		
Highly effective	24/30	
Section 2 - Expressive Portfolio - Skills		
Creatively and skilfully using appropriate materials, techniques and/or technology for visual effect in response to their theme or stimulus		
Limited effectiveness		Watercolour and acrylic paint along with coloured pencil have been used with creativity and a high level of skill to create a highly effective level of finish. The candidate has however refined their use of materials to a greater extent in some areas of the folio than in others, possibly as a result of timing issues.
Partially effective		
Effective		
Highly effective	20/25	
Creatively and skilfully using appropriate visual elements and expressive effects in response to their theme or stimulus		
Limited effectiveness		The candidate has made highly effective use of the visual elements in areas with in the folio, making use of viewpoint, composition and mood and atmosphere to create expressive effect. This could have potentially been explored further in the development stage of the folio in relation to decisions that the candidate made in the final piece.
Partially effective		
Effective		
Highly effective	20/25	
Section 3 - Expressive Portfolio - Evaluation		
Giving justified personal opinions on the decisions made when working through their expressive portfolio and evaluating the effectiveness of the visual qualities of their expressive portfolio with reference to their theme/stimulus		
Limited justified		The candidate has made fully justified and detailed evaluative points in relation to the decisions which were made and the visual qualities of the folio.
Partially justified		
Justified		
Fully justified	10/10	