

Integrated Skills in English

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2024

These are the only acceptable portfolio tasks for candidates taking the ISE IV exam from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.

Your ISE IV Portfolio must contain a total of three tasks. You must present one task from each section:

One from Section 1 – Correspondence

One from Section 2 – Factual writing

One from Section 3 – Critical and analytical writing

Please write the task question number on each piece of work.

At the end of each task, write the number of words you have used to complete the task. You must not exceed the stated maximum word length range.

ISE IV Portfolio preparation rules

ISE IV candidates and teachers must follow these important rules when preparing portfolio tasks:

1. The Portfolio must contain the candidate's own work and no one else's.
2. Nobody except the candidate personally should correct, add to or take anything out of a task.
3. Teachers (or any other person) must not correct a candidate's work.
4. Teachers are allowed to give one piece of feedback per portfolio task only. The ISE IV student portfolio feedback form should be used for this purpose. This must be the only form of feedback given.
5. No one except the candidate's teacher is permitted to give the candidate feedback on their work.
6. Candidates must not copy a piece of written text from any other source and present it as their own work.

Please note that if any of the above rules are broken, a U (Ungraded) grade will be awarded by the examiner, and the candidate will score zero in his/her portfolio.

Candidate disqualification warning!

Trinity will not tolerate any cheating, unfair practice or breach of its rules and regulations. Candidates found to have committed any such conduct will be disqualified.

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2024

Section 1

ISE IV – Correspondence (word length range: 300-350 words)

- 1. Leading educationalists argue that traditional teaching methods do not meet children's needs and teachers should transition to 'personalised learning'. This is defined as customising learning according to each student's strengths, needs and interests.**

Write a formal letter to your local education authority diplomatically proposing that they introduce 'personalised learning' across schools in your area and affirming the value of this educational approach.

AND

Write an informal email to a teacher you know personally urging them to support you in your bid to better meet students' individual learning needs.

- 2. The environmental benefits of using public transport are widely acknowledged. However, many people continue to rely on cars as their primary means of transport.**

Write a formal letter to the department of transport outlining the impact of private car use on the environment and evaluating how the public transport network in your country could be improved to enable its widespread use.

AND

Write an informal email to a friend who uses their car for their daily commute diplomatically proposing that they consider alternative methods of transport to reduce their carbon footprint.

- 3. Plans have recently been put forward to build some much-needed affordable housing, a school and a medical centre in a green space in your area. Some residents back the proposal, while others fervently oppose it.**

Develop an internet forum with two or more local residents where the value of the development is asserted, counter arguments are put forward and a measured course of action is proposed.

4. Older people often look back to the past and contend that life was better then.

Develop an online forum with various contributors debating the extent to which the idea that life was better in the past is true and presenting arguments for and against the idea of 'the good old days'.

5. For some people award ceremonies like the Oscars are a way of recognising talent in the film industry. For others, it is an exclusive club only for the top Hollywood stars.

Develop an online forum in which the purpose of film awards is discussed, and personal opinions representing the two different viewpoints are justified.

Remember – you must choose your 2024 ISE IV correspondence task from the above list.

NB the word length range given above for ISE IV correspondence tasks is for the whole task, eg letter and email. Dividing the word length between the individual pieces of correspondence is the responsibility of each candidate. However, you must not exceed the stated maximum word length range.

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2024

Section 2

ISE IV – Factual writing (word length range: 300-350 words)

- 1. A large old cinema in your area has fallen into disuse. The local council has asked residents for proposals on how to redevelop the building.**

Write a proposal for the council outlining your idea for redeveloping the site. Highlight the benefits of your plan for the community and counter any possible objections.

- 2. A recent study found young people spend over a third of their leisure time on a digital device.**

Write an article for a sociology journal outlining how technology has changed the way young people spend their leisure time in recent years. Evaluate whether the positive effects of increased device use offset any adverse effects and conclude with your own view on whether technology is making young people more or less sociable.

- 3. Recent research has revealed a direct correlation between a positive workplace culture and employees' satisfaction.**

Write a report for a company whose staff are lacking motivation asserting the benefits of creating a positive workplace culture, supporting your points with examples from well-known organisations. Propose some practical changes the company can implement to improve its own workplace culture.

- 4. Influencer marketing can be an effective way of expanding a brand's reach on social media.**

You are a member of the marketing team at a start-up company. Write a report for the Marketing Director outlining whether your business could benefit from collaborating with social media influencers, and discuss any potential downsides to this course of action. Recommend a social media strategy to best represent your brand.

- 5. Certain television shows have become popular cultural phenomena. The rise of on-demand streaming platforms enables people to 'binge watch' these shows episode after episode.**

Write a review of a TV series you recently watched for a media magazine outlining the main themes of the series and evaluating what qualities would make the series 'binge worthy'. Conclude with your own view on how television viewing has changed with the rise in popularity of watching programmes on demand.

Remember – you must choose your 2024 ISE IV factual writing task from the above list.

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2024

Section 3

ISE IV – Critical and analytical writing (word length range: 300-350 words)

1. 'To improve is to change. To be perfect is to change often.'

(Winston Churchill, former Prime Minister of the UK, 1874-1965)

Write an essay exploring the meaning behind the statement in relation to the world of business today and assessing to what extent success and continuous organisational transformation are interdependent. Support your assertions with relevant examples.

2. 'Fashion can be a universal player in protecting the planet.'

(Pharrell Williams, musician, born 1973)

Write an essay exploring the meaning behind this statement and evaluating to what extent the fashion industry is advancing towards a greener future. Support your arguments with relevant examples.

3. 'The difference between literature and journalism is that journalism is unreadable, and literature is not read.'

(Oscar Wilde, poet and playwright, 1854-1900)

Write an essay interpreting what is meant by the statement and assessing its validity in society today. Support your assertions with relevant examples.

4. 'It's often thought that the only function of pronunciation is to facilitate intelligibility; but it is also there to express personal or group identity.'

(David Crystal, linguist, born 1941)

Write an essay demonstrating your understanding of this statement and assessing ways in which pronunciation can reveal a person's social identity in your culture. Illustrate your assertions with relevant examples.

5. 'As consumers we have so much power to change the world by just being careful in what we buy.'

(Emma Watson, actress, born 1990)

Write an essay evaluating to what extent consumers are increasingly shopping with the environment in mind and assessing what barriers there may be to adopting such behaviour. Support your assertions with relevant examples.

Remember – you must choose your 2024 ISE IV critical and analytical writing task from the above list.