

Integrated Skills in English

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2021

These are the only acceptable portfolio tasks for candidates taking the ISE IV exam from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021.

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 2021

Section 1

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

1. There is a proposal to start fracking in a green area near your home.

Write a formal letter to your local authority asserting your concern about the consequences of this and appealing to them to refuse permission for the project.

AND

Write an informal email to local residents urging them to voice their opposition to the scheme.

2. Advertising is a form of art.

Develop an online forum between two or more participants in which this statement is affirmed and counter-arguments are put forward. Support the opinions given with relevant examples.

3. The headteacher of your local school has just announced that learning a language will no longer be a compulsory part of the school curriculum.

Write a formal email to the school diplomatically expressing your dissatisfaction at this ruling and asserting why this decision will have a detrimental effect on the children's education.

AND

Write an informal email to a group of parents with children at the school convincing them to assist you in opposing this decision.

4. Plans have recently been announced to introduce a high online sales tax for items bought on the internet in an attempt to reduce the internet's effect on traditional shop sales.

Develop an online forum between two or more participants debating the merits of this policy. Consider whether there are any alternative ways that traditional shops could increase sales.

5. Studies show that incorporating regular exercise into the working day generates positive outcomes for both the employee and employer.

Write a formal letter to the managing director of your workplace highlighting the value of introducing a regular exercise programme at your workplace.

AND

Write an informal email to your colleagues asking them to support you in your proposal and countering any possible objections to the idea.

Remember – you must choose your 2021 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 2021

Section 2

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

1. Many people are concerned about the growth of 'fast fashion' and how this trend does untold damage to the environment.

Write a report for an environmental organisation outlining how this trend has developed, affirming the effect it has on the environment and proposing how the growth of fast fashion might be curtailed.

2. Documentaries have the power to dramatically change the way we view the world by bringing pressing issues to our attention.

Write a review of a documentary that changed your perspective on the world. Identify the key messages of the documentary, assess the effect it had on you and comment on the ways in which this was achieved.

3. A recent study claimed there is no direct evidence that extended screen time is harmful for children's health.

Write an article for an educational publication asserting your position on the study's claim, supporting your arguments with relevant examples. Conclude with your opinion on to what extent it is possible to limit children's screen time in today's society.

4. Your employer has recently halved the budget that pays for staff training and Continuing Professional Development. This decision is affecting staff morale.

Write a report for your manager affirming the importance of Continuing Professional Development and outlining the consequences that this budget cut may have. Conclude with proposing a range of relevant training opportunities for staff.

5. Fake news or misinformation on the internet is a growing concern nowadays.

Write an article for a current affairs magazine considering to what extent online coverage accurately reflects what is going on in the world today and assessing the potential impact of fake news on society. Support your viewpoint with relevant examples.

Remember – you must choose your 2021 ISE IV factual writing task from the above list.

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2021

Section 3

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

- 1. 'Of course, mankind has made giant steps forward. However, what we know is really very, very little compared to what we still have to know.'**

(Fabiola Gianotti, Scientist, born 1960)

Write an essay evaluating this statement in relation to science and technology today, identifying areas in which progress is still to be made and outlining ways in which this might be achieved.

- 2. 'Music can change the world because it can change people.'**

(Bono, singer-songwriter, born 1960)

Write an essay assessing the validity of Bono's statement, giving examples to support your line of reasoning. Conclude with a personal reflection on the extent to which music has affected you.

- 3. 'In order to be irreplaceable, one must always be different.'**

(Coco Chanel, fashion designer, 1883-1971)

Write an essay exploring the meaning behind this statement. Consider its value as a principle which people need to follow in order to succeed, illustrating your points with relevant examples.

- 4. 'The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction.'**

(Rachel Carson, conservationist, 1907-1964)

Write an essay exploring what is meant by this statement in relation to the environment, giving examples of the particular 'wonders' that warrant our attention and evaluating ways in which the situation could be improved.

- 5. 'Learning is not the product of teaching. Learning is the product of the activity of learners.'**

(John Holt, author and educator, 1923-1985)

Write an essay demonstrating what you understand by this statement and evaluating its validity. Support your views with relevant examples from your own experience.

Remember – you must choose your 2021 ISE IV critical and analytical writing task from the above list.