

ISE Portfolio assessment

Portfolio performance descriptors

The performance descriptors are used for the assessment of all the tasks within the Portfolio and for all levels.

While, of necessity, the descriptors have to be generic in nature, it is important that examiners use them with reference to the requirements of the particular task and take into account the level at which the candidate is being assessed.

Band	Task fulfilment
A	Excellent execution of the task. All requirements of the task completely satisfied with no omissions or irrelevance. Appropriate expansion of points. Very well-organised into appropriate paragraphs with natural use of cohesive devices. Appropriate style and register for task and reader consistently realised. Wide range of the grammatical, lexical and functional language items of the level used with high level of accuracy and appropriacy. Highly accurate spelling and punctuation. A totally positive effect on the reader.
B	Good execution of the task. The main requirements of the task are generally satisfied with no omissions, though there may be some irrelevant details. Adequate expansion of points. Good organisation of the text, with appropriate paragraphs and adequate use of cohesive devices. Appropriate style and register for task and reader generally realised. Good coverage of the grammatical, lexical and functional language of the level, used with a good level of accuracy and appropriacy. Minor errors do not affect understanding. Spelling and punctuation are very good. A positive effect on the reader.
C	Satisfactory execution of the task. Main points covered although there may be some minor omissions or irrelevant details. There may be little expansion. Awareness of the need for structure, but may be partially achieved. There may be inconsistent use of cohesive devices. Style and register usually appropriate. Satisfactory level of accuracy of the grammatical, lexical and functional language items of the level with non-impeding errors, but range may be restricted. Spelling and punctuation are satisfactory and mostly consistent and errors do not impede understanding. Desired effect on the reader mostly achieved.
D	Poor execution of the task. There is some attempt at the task, but there are significant omissions and irrelevant details. Poor organisation may cause the reader some difficulties. Limited awareness of appropriate style and register. There is little evidence of the grammatical, lexical and functional language items of the level. Control of language items below the level may be evident, but when attempting to use language of the level, inaccuracies and inappropriacies are frequent and may impede understanding. Spelling and punctuation errors evident throughout. Desired effect on the reader not achieved.
E	Unsatisfactory execution of the task. Task not addressed or has serious omissions. Lack of text organisation may cause reader extreme difficulties. No sign of awareness of appropriate style and register. A highly-restricted range of the grammatical, lexical and functional language items of the level. Errors are frequent and highly intrusive with language of and/or below the level. Lack of control over spelling and punctuation. Negative effect on the reader.
U	It is clearly evident that the work presented is not that of the candidate. This could be due to copying from other candidates, plagiarism or excessive assistance from the teacher.
N	The task is problematic and has not been assessed.

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Word length ranges for portfolio tasks

Task type	ISE 0	ISE I	ISE II	ISE III	ISE IV
Correspondence	40-60	70-80	120-150	180-210	300-350
Factual writing	80-100	110-130	170-200	220-250	300-350
Creative/ descriptive writing	80-100	110-130	170-200	220-250	n/a
Critical/ analytical writing	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	300-350