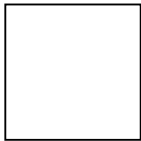


Sample ISE O portfolio tasks

Candidate answers, assessments and rationale

ISE O - Section 1 - Correspondence (40-60 words)

You are on holiday with your family in the mountains. Write a postcard to a friend saying what you are doing and what you like most about the place where you are staying. Tell him/her when you are going to return.

<p>12th July</p> <p>Hi Mary!</p> <p>I'm enjoying my holidays in the mountains very much, and the weather is always sunny!</p> <p>What I like most about it is the walks to the refuges on the top of these mountains, and I love the view you can admire from there.</p> <p>I'm coming back home on Saturday.</p> <p>See you soon,</p> <p>Candidate X</p>	<div data-bbox="1110 701 1250 840"></div> <p>Mary Black 7 Chapel road Manchester England</p>
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ISE 0 - Section 1 - Correspondence (40-60 words)

Rationale for ISE 0 Portfolio assessment
Grade: A
Overall achievement of communicative aim
The candidate has answered all three parts of the question in a very competent manner. She says what she is doing (enjoying a holiday in the mountains), what she likes most about her holiday destination (the walks and views) and when she is coming home (Saturday). The writing is within the specified word length range (55 words). ★Tip - Please note the address and date are not included in the word count.
Text organisation
The text is clearly divided into appropriate paragraphs and it is extremely coherent and easy to follow. The greeting, 'Hi Mary!', and leave-taking, 'See you soon' are entirely suitable for a holiday postcard to a friend.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The layout is entirely suitable for a postcard. Style and register are appropriate for a friend, with the use of contractions and exclamation marks emphasising the informal nature of the communication.
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
The candidate covers the required functions: greetings, stating simple facts, expressing likes and writing about current activities, in a highly impressive manner. Grammatically and lexically, the language is simple but entirely accurate and appropriate for this level. The use of the Present simple and Present continuous tenses is well contrasted and there are no problems with prepositions or articles. ★Tip - Refer to the syllabus for the specified language items of each level and ensure the candidate <i>can</i> use them.
Spelling and punctuation
There are no spelling mistakes and only one punctuation slip in the address, where 'road' should have a capital 'R'.
Effect on reader
Overall the task has a very positive effect on the reader.

ISE 0 - Section 2 - Factual writing (80-100 words)

You are going on a camping trip with a group of friends. Write some instructions for the group about what clothes, food and equipment you need to bring.

Equipment for Trip

We are going on a camping trip, so we must prepare everything well.

Firstly, we will arrive to the top of mountain, so we should to take a coat even though it is summer now. Also, we should take some ship's biscuits and enriched juice. Moreover, we should bring a medical box. Lastly don't forget to bring some general stuff with you, like medication, bowls, and bottles, matches and so on.

Any way, if we prepare everything well, we have a successful trip. We will enjoy ourselves.

ISE 0 - Section 2 - Factual writing (80-100 words)

Rationale for ISE 0 Portfolio assessment
Grade: B
Overall achievement of communicative aim
The candidate adequately fulfils the requirements of this task, giving details on what clothes, food and equipment are needed for the camping trip. The text is within the specified word length range (87 words). ★Tip - Please note the title is not included in the word count.
Text organisation
The text is divided into appropriate paragraphs, with a natural use of cohesive devices e.g. firstly, also, lastly. It is clear and easy to follow.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
Style and register are usually appropriate, though more contractions could have been used. The format is also quite suitable. Although, the use of bullet points and/or a numbered list (as is often observed in instructions) may have further enhanced the text. ★Tip - It is important that candidates learn the standard conventions for different text types.
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
The candidate is able to write about future plans and intentions and there is a good level of grammatical accuracy. However, only isolated examples of the grammatical items for ISE 0 can be observed. ★Tip - Candidates should include a wide range of the relevant language items of the level, to show the examiner what they <i>can</i> do. There is a good range of lexis, but at times direct translation affects the communication of meaning e.g. ship's biscuits, enriched juice. ★Tip - use a dictionary to check the meaning of words.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling and punctuation are very accurate, with only occasional errors e.g. even thought.
Effect on reader
The task has a positive effect on the reader.

ISE 0 - Section 3 - Creative and descriptive writing (80 - 100 words)

Write a description of your favourite pet (one you have now or one you had in the past).

My Dog

Lili is my dog. She is 7 years old now. I have got her when I was 10 years old.

Lili is quite good-looking. She's fat and big, with yellow hair. Her eye is black and bright. Also, her tail looks like a flower.

Lili is very outgoing. She is always friendly to everybody. For example, when people come to my house, she rocks her tail to show others and makes us happy.

All in all, I am happy with Lili, because she is a lovely and happiness girl. I am happy to be her owner.

ISE 0 - Section 3 - Creative and descriptive writing (80 - 100 words)

Rationale for ISE 0 Portfolio assessment
Grade: C
Overall achievement of communicative aim
A satisfactory execution of the task, whereby the candidate describes her favourite pet, with only a few irrelevant details. At 96 words, the task is within the stated word length range. ★Tip - Please note the title is not included in the word count.
Text organisation
The text is divided into appropriate paragraphs, with a suitable introduction and conclusion.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The candidate has used a suitable format for a piece of descriptive writing, with a simple yet very appropriate title. The register and style are usually appropriate. Although, at times the description seems more appropriate for a person e.g. Lili is quite good-looking.
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
The candidate is able to describe her pet with a satisfactory level of accuracy. Although inaccuracies are evident with the grammatical items of the level e.g. 'I have got her', 'her eye is black'. Lexis is not always used appropriately e.g. 'happiness girl', 'she rocks her tail'. ★Tip - Candidates should use a dictionary and grammar reference books to present the best quality work they can. Nevertheless, these errors do not impede understanding.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling is very good and punctuation mainly suitable, with occasional over-use of commas.
Effect on reader
In general, the desired effect on the reader is achieved.