Assessment criteria overview

Assessment for arts courses in all years of the programme is criterion-related, based on four equally weighted assessment criteria.

Criterion A	Knowing and understanding	Maximum 8
Criterion B	Developing skills	Maximum 8
Criterion C	Thinking creatively	Maximum 8
Criterion D	Responding	Maximum 8

Subject groups must assess all strands of all four assessment criteria at least twice in each year of the MYP.

In the MYP, subject-group objectives correspond to assessment criteria. Each criterion has eight possible achievement levels (1-8), divided into four bands that generally represent limited (1-2); adequate (3-4); substantial (5-6); and excellent (7-8) performance. Each band has its own unique descriptor that teachers use to make "best-fit" judgments about students' progress and achievement.

This guide provides the required assessment criteria for years 1, 3 and 5 of MYP arts. In response to national or local requirements, schools may add criteria and use additional models of assessment. Schools must use the appropriate assessment criteria as published in this guide to report students' final achievement in the programme.



Task-specific clarifications

The assessment criteria as published in this guide must be used when determining students' achievement levels for each criterion. However, specific expectations for each task must still be defined.

The MYP arts objective and assessment criterion B (developing skills) is the same for all year groups. The increase in sophistication of skills is determined by the skill set developed through each unit, over the years of study. It is expected that teachers plan carefully the skills they expect students to master over each year of the programme in the MYP arts.

It is expected that, in any unit of study, students acquire new skills alongside those they have previously mastered. This also allows for students with little or no prior knowledge in the arts to excel. The acquisition of skills must be formatively assessed periodically to allow the teacher to monitor the progress a student has made in acquiring skills for summative assessment in the unit. It is important that teachers specify the expected skills and outcomes at the beginning of each unit so that students are aware of what is required for summative assessment.

Teachers need to clarify exactly what the "skills and techniques of the art form studied" means in a given assessment task. This might be in the form of:

- a task-specific clarification of the criteria, using the published criteria but with some wording changed to match the task
- an oral discussion of the expectations
- a checklist of skills addressed in the unit.

Arts assessment criteria: Year 3

Criterion A: Knowing and understanding

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 3, students should be able to:

- i. demonstrate knowledge of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and the use of appropriate language
- ii. demonstrate knowledge of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts
- iii. use acquired knowledge to inform their artwork.

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.	
1–2	 i. demonstrates limited knowledge of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and limited use of appropriate language ii. demonstrates limited knowledge of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts iii. demonstrates limited use of acquired knowledge to inform his or her artwork. 	
3-4	 i. demonstrates adequate knowledge of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and adequate use of appropriate language ii. demonstrates adequate knowledge of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts iii. demonstrates adequate use of acquired knowledge to inform his or her artwork. 	
5–6	 i. demonstrates substantial knowledge of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and substantial use of appropriate language ii. demonstrates substantial knowledge of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts iii. demonstrates substantial use of acquired knowledge to inform his or her artwork. 	

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
	 i. demonstrates excellent knowledge of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and excellent use of appropriate language 	
7–8	ii. demonstrates excellent knowledge of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts	
	iii. demonstrates excellent use of acquired knowledge to inform his or her artwork.	



Criterion B: Developing skills

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 3, students should be able to:

- i. demonstrate the acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied
- ii. demonstrate the application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art.

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.	
1–2	 i. demonstrates limited acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates limited application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	
3-4	 i. demonstrates adequate acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates adequate application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	
5–6	 i. demonstrates substantial acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates substantial application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	
7–8	 i. demonstrates excellent acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates excellent application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	

Criterion C: Thinking creatively

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 3, students should be able to:

- outline a clear and feasible artistic intention
- ii. outline alternatives, perspectives, and imaginative solutions
- iii. demonstrate the exploration of ideas through the developmental process to a point of realization.

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.	
1–2	 i. presents a limited outline of an artistic intention, which may lack clarity or feasibility ii. presents a limited outline of alternatives, perspectives, and imaginative solutions iii. demonstrates limited exploration of ideas through the developmental process, which may lack a point of realization. 	
3–4	 i. presents an adequate outline of a clear and/or feasible artistic intention ii. presents an adequate outline of alternatives, perspectives, and imaginative solutions iii. demonstrates adequate exploration of ideas through the developmental process to a point of realization. 	
5–6	 i. presents a substantial outline of a clear and feasible artistic intention ii. presents a substantial outline of alternatives, perspectives, and imaginative solutions iii. demonstrates substantial exploration of ideas through the developmental process to a point of realization. 	
7–8	 i. presents an excellent outline of a clear and feasible artistic intention ii. presents an excellent outline of alternatives, perspectives, and imaginative solutions iii. demonstrates excellent exploration of ideas through the developmental process to a point of realization. 	



Criterion D: Responding

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 3, students should be able to:

- i. outline connections and transfer learning to new settings
- ii. create an artistic response inspired by the world around them
- iii. evaluate the artwork of self and others.

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.	
1–2	 i. presents a limited outline of connections and may transfer learning to new settings ii. creates a limited artistic response that is possibly inspired by the world around him or her iii. presents a limited evaluation of the artwork of self and others. 	
3-4	 i. presents an adequate outline of connections and occasionally transfers learning to new settings ii. creates an adequate artistic response that is inspired by the world around him or her to some degree iii. presents an adequate evaluation of the artwork of self and others. 	
5–6	 i. presents a substantial outline of connections and regularly transfers learning to new settings ii. creates a substantial artistic response that is considerably inspired by the world around him or her iii. presents a substantial evaluation of the artwork of self and others. 	
7–8	 i. presents an excellent outline of connections with depth and insight, and effectively transfers learning to new settings ii. creates an excellent artistic response that is effectively inspired by the world around him or her iii. presents an excellent evaluation of the artwork of self and others. 	

Arts assessment criteria: Year 5

Criterion A: Knowing and understanding

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 5, students should be able to:

- i. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and the use of subject-specific terminology
- demonstrate understanding of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts ii.
- use acquired knowledge to purposefully inform artistic decisions in the process of creating artwork. iii.

Achievement level	Level descriptor
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.
1–2	 i. demonstrates limited knowledge and understanding of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and limited use of subject-specific terminology ii. demonstrates limited understanding of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts iii. demonstrates limited use of acquired knowledge to purposefully inform artistic decisions in the process of creating artwork.
3–4	 i. demonstrates adequate knowledge and understanding of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and adequate use of subject-specific terminology ii. demonstrates adequate understanding of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts iii. demonstrates adequate use of acquired knowledge to purposefully inform artistic decisions in the process of creating artwork.
5–6	 i. demonstrates substantial knowledge and understanding of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and substantial use of subject-specific terminology ii. demonstrates substantial understanding of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts iii. demonstrates substantial use of acquired knowledge to purposefully inform artistic decisions.



Achievement level	Level descriptor
7–8	 i. demonstrates excellent knowledge and understanding of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and excellent use of subject-specific terminology ii. demonstrates excellent understanding of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts
	iii. demonstrates excellent use of acquired knowledge to purposefully inform artistic decisions in the process of creating artwork.

Criterion B: Developing skills

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 5, students should be able to:

- demonstrate the acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied
- ii. demonstrate the application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art.

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.	
1–2	 i. demonstrates limited acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates limited application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	
3–4	 i. demonstrates adequate acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates adequate application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	
5–6	 i. demonstrates substantial acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates substantial application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	
7–8	 i. demonstrates excellent acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied ii. demonstrates excellent application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art. 	



Criterion C: Thinking creatively

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 5, students should be able to:

- i. develop a feasible, clear, imaginative and coherent artistic intention
- ii. demonstrate a range and depth of creative-thinking behaviours
- iii. demonstrate the exploration of ideas to shape artistic intention through to a point of realization.

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.	
1–2	 i. develops a limited artistic intention that is rarely feasible, clear, imaginative or coherent ii. demonstrates a limited range or depth of creative-thinking behaviours iii. demonstrates limited exploration of ideas to shape artistic intention that may reach a point of realization. 	
3–4	 i. develops an adequate artistic intention that is occasionally feasible, clear, imaginative and/or coherent ii. demonstrates an adequate range and depth of creative-thinking behaviours iii. demonstrates adequate exploration of ideas to shape artistic intention through to a point of realization. 	
5–6	 i. develops a substantial artistic intention that is often feasible, clear, imaginative and coherent ii. demonstrates a substantial range and depth of creative-thinking behaviours iii. demonstrates substantial exploration of ideas to purposefully shape artistic intention through to a point of realization. 	
7–8	 i. develops an excellent artistic intention that is consistently feasible, clear, imaginative and coherent ii. demonstrates an excellent range and depth of creative-thinking behaviours iii. demonstrates excellent exploration of ideas to effectively shape artistic intention through to a point of realization. 	

Criterion D: Responding

Maximum: 8

At the end of year 5, students should be able to:

- construct meaning and transfer learning to new settings
- ii. create an artistic response that intends to reflect or impact on the world around them
- iii. critique the artwork of self and others.

Achievement level	Level descriptor	
0	The student does not reach a standard described by any of the descriptors below.	
1–2	 i. constructs limited meaning and may transfer learning to new settings ii. creates a limited artistic response that may intend to reflect or impact on the world around him or her iii. presents a limited critique of the artwork of self and others. 	
3–4	 i. constructs adequate meaning and occasionally transfers learning to new settings ii. creates an adequate artistic response that intends to reflect or impact on the world around him or her iii. presents an adequate critique of the artwork of self and others. 	
5-6	 i. constructs appropriate meaning and regularly transfers learning to new settings ii. creates a substantial artistic response that intends to reflect or impact on the world around him or her iii. presents a substantial critique of the artwork of self and others. 	
7–8	 i. constructs meaning with depth and insight and effectively transfers learning to new settings ii. creates an excellent artistic response that intends to effectively reflect or impact on the world around him or her iii. presents an excellent critique of the artwork of self and others. 	

