International GCSE Art and Design

Photography
Component 1
Total mark = 35

Pearson

	AO1 **Develop**	AO2 **Refine**	AO3 **Record**	AO4 **Realise intentions**
Mark	9	8	10	8
Mark band	Level 3 Just emerging competent ability	Level 3 Just emerging competent ability	Level 4 Just competent and consistent ability	Level 3 Just emerging competent ability
			Total	35

Mark band:

Mark band 3 – Emerging competent

Key word descriptors from the taxonomy:

Predictable, broadening, repetitive, intentional, adequate

International GCSE assessment grid – Examiners will use this assessment grid to assess all student work for both components and all titles

Assessment Objectives	Mark Band 1 LIMITED ABILITY *Insufficient knowledge, understanding and skills; minimal evidence or, and lack of structure in, the development and recording of ideas*			Mark Band 2 BASIC ABILITY *Some knowledge, understanding and skills demonstrated but they are simplistic and deliberate; some structure and repetition in the development and recording of ideas*			Mark Band 3 EMERGING COMPETENT ABILITY *Knowledge, understanding and skills are generally adequate but safe*			Mark Band 4 COMPETENT AND CONSISTENT ABILITY *Knowledge, understanding and skills are secure and cohesive throughout*			Mark Band 5 CONFIDENT AND ASSURED ABILITY *Knowledge, understanding and skills are effective and focused throughout*			Mark Band 6 EXCEPTIONAL ABILITY *Knowledge, understanding and skills are in-depth, perceptive and accomplished throughout*		
	Just	Mostly	Fully	Just	Mostly	Fully	Just	Mostly	Fully	Just	Mostly	Fully	Just	Mostly	Fully	Just	Mostly	Fully
AO1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	**9**	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources	• Development of ideas through investigations shows limited ability. • The investigation process shows limited critical understanding of the context of own ideas and the sources that have informed them. • Limited attempts are made to analyse and make connections.			• Development of ideas through investigations shows basic ability. • The investigation process shows basic critical understanding of the context of own ideas and the sources that have informed them. • Basic understanding of some issues when analysing and making connections.			• Development of ideas through investigations shows emerging competence. • The investigation process shows emerging competent critical understanding of the context of own ideas and the sources that have informed them. • Emerging competent consideration of issues shown when analysing and making connections.			• Development of ideas through investigations shows competent and consistent ability. • The investigation process shows competent and consistent critical understanding of the context of own ideas and the sources that have informed them. • Competent and consistent judgements shown when analysing and making connections.			• Development of ideas through investigations shows confident and assured ability. • The investigation process shows confident and assured critical understanding of the context of own ideas and the sources that have informed them. • Shows confident and assured understanding of complex issues, heightened analysis, informed connections.			• Development of ideas through investigations shows exceptional ability. • The investigation process shows exceptional critical understanding of the context of own ideas and the sources that have informed them. • Exceptional analysis and connections.		
AO2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	**8**	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes	• Limited ability to refine work, driven by insights gained through exploration of ideas and reflection. Ideas are consolidated too early and not fully realised. • Limited ability to explore ideas through a process of experimentation and review. • Limited ability to select and experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes appropriate to personal intentions.			• Basic ability to refine work, driven by insights gained through exploration of ideas and reflection. • Basic ability to explore ideas through a process of experimentation and review. • Basic ability to select and experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes appropriate to personal intentions.			• Emerging competent ability to refine work, driven by insights gained through exploration of ideas and reflection. • Emerging competent ability to explore ideas through a process of experimentation and review. • Emerging competent ability to select and experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes appropriate to personal intentions.			• Competent and consistent ability to refine work, driven by insights gained through exploration of ideas and reflection. • Competent and consistent ability to explore ideas through a process of experimentation and review. • Competent and consistent ability to select and experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes appropriate to personal intentions.			• Confident and assured ability to refine work, driven by insights gained through exploration of ideas and reflection. • Confident and assured and assured ability to explore ideas through a process of experimentation and review. • Confident and assured ability to select and experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes appropriate to personal intentions.			• Exceptional ability to refine work, informed by insights gained through exploring and reflecting on ideas. • Exceptional ability to explore ideas through a process of experimentation and review. • Exceptional ability to select and experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes appropriate to personal intentions.		
AO3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	**10**	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses	• Limited ability to record ideas, observations and insights related to personal work and the work of others through visual and other methods. • Limited ability to record relevant to intentions. • Limited use of skills and techniques while recording from observation, experience and ideas.			• Basic ability to record ideas, observations and insights related to personal work and the work of others through visual and other methods. • Basic ability to record relevant to intentions. • Basic use of skills and techniques while recording from observation, experience and ideas.			• Emerging competent ability to record ideas, observations and insights related to personal work and the work of others through visual and other methods. • Emerging competent ability to record relevant to intentions. • Emerging competent use of skills and techniques while recording from observation, experience and ideas.			• Competent and consistent ability to record ideas, observations and insights related to personal work and the work of others through visual and other methods. • Competent and consistent ability to record relevant to intentions. • Competent and consistent command of skill and techniques while recording from observation, experience and ideas.			• Confident and assured ability to record ideas, observations and insights related to personal work and the work of others through visual and other methods. • Confident and assured ability to record relevant to intentions. • Confident and assured use of skills and techniques while recording from observation, experience and ideas.			• Exceptional ability to record ideas, observations and insights related to personal work and the work of others through visual and other methods. • Exceptional ability to record relevant to intentions. • Exceptional use of skills and techniques while recording from observation, experience and ideas.		
AO4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	**8**	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language	• Limited ability to produce a personal and meaningful response. • Limited ability to realise intentions. • Realisations demonstrate limited understanding of visual language through application of formal elements. Little appreciation of aesthetic consideration in personal style.			• Basic ability to produce a personal and meaningful response with a tendency to repeat ideas. • Basic ability to realise intentions. • Realisations demonstrate basic understanding of visual language through application of formal elements. A lack of technical competency frustrates personal style.			• Emerging competent ability to produce a personal and meaningful response. • Emerging competent understanding to realise intentions. • Realisations demonstrate emerging competent understanding of visual language through application of formal elements. Demonstrates methodical personal style.			• Competent and consistent ability to produce a personal and meaningful response. • Competent and consistent ability to realise intentions. • Realisations demonstrate competent and consistent understanding of visual language through application of formal elements. Demonstrates imaginative personal style.			• Confident and assured ability to produce a personal and meaningful response. • Confident and assured ability to realise intentions. • Realisations demonstrate confident and assured understanding of visual language through application of formal elements. Demonstrates independence and exciting personal style.			• Exceptional ability to produce a personal and meaningful response. • Exceptional ability to realise intentions. • Realisations demonstrate exceptional understanding of visual language through application of formal elements.		

Recording of marks for all International GCSE work					Total marks out of 72 for each component	
Component	AO1 marks: indicate a mark out of 18	AO2 marks: indicate a mark out of 18	AO3 marks: indicate a mark out of 18	AO4 marks: indicate a mark out of 18		
Component 1 Personal Portfolio	AO1 mark	AO2 mark	AO3 mark	AO4 mark	Total COMPONENT 1	
Component 2 Externally Set Assignment	AO1 mark	AO2 mark	AO3 mark	AO4 mark	Total COMPONENT 2	
					Total	

Pearson – International GCSE Art and Design Taxonomy

How to use the Taxonomy in conjunction with the Assessment Grid

Both components in this qualification are 100% externally assessed, however centres will find it helpful to use the taxonomy and assessment grid to provide feedback on student's progress.

- When assessing work for each component, examiners will make a holistic judgement using the descriptors in the taxonomy, to establish which performance band matches most closely the candidate's work.
- Candidate's work that falls between two performance bands must achieve all the keyword descriptors in the lower band and some in the band above. Where this happens, examiners will use their professional judgement to decide which performance band is most appropriate using a 'best-fit' approach.
- After a performance band has been established, the next stage is to use the assessment grid to decide a mark within the performance band. Read through *'Applying the Assessment Grid'* on page 41 of the specification prior to establishing a mark for each assessment objective and total mark.

Performance bands	BELOW INTERNATIONAL GCSE STANDARD (0)	LIMITED	LIMITED / BASIC	BASIC	BASIC/ EMERGING COMPONENT	EMERGING COMPETENT	EMERGING COMPETENT/ COMPETENT & CONSISTENT	COMPETENT & CONSISTENT	COMPETENT & CONSISTENT/ CONFIDENT & ASSURED	CONFIDENT & ASSURED	CONFIDENT & ASSURED / EXCEPTIONAL	EXCEPTIONAL
Consider the keyword descriptors to the right carefully. Has the candidate achieved all, most or some of the descriptors?	No rewardable material	Unstructured Clumsy Disjointed Minimal Rudimentary	The candidate has achieved all of the keyword descriptors in the lower band and some of those above.	Deliberate Methodical Superficial Partial Unresolved Simplistic	The candidate has achieved all of the keyword descriptors in the lower band and some of those above.	Reflective Predictable Broadening Repetitive Intentional Adequate	The candidate has achieved all of the keyword descriptors in the lower band and some of those above.	Informed Purposeful Diverse Sustained Skilful Effective	The candidate has achieved all of the keyword descriptors in the lower band and some of those above.	Advanced Comprehensive Perceptive Exciting In-depth Fully resolved Risk-taking	The candidate has achieved all of the keyword descriptors in the lower band and some of those above.	Highly skilled Inspired Intuitive Sophisticated Insightful Powerful Daring Unexpected Outstanding
	0 marks	1 – 12 marks	13 14 15 marks	16 – 24 marks	25 26 27 marks	28 – 36 marks	37 38 39 marks	40 – 48 Marks	49 50 51 marks	52 – 60 marks	61 62 63 marks	64 – 72 marks

*Please note that as of November 2023, the Level 1 key word descriptor 'Crude' has been changed to 'Rudimentary'

whether ancient building should be preserved

Whether we should preserve Soviet-style ancient architecture
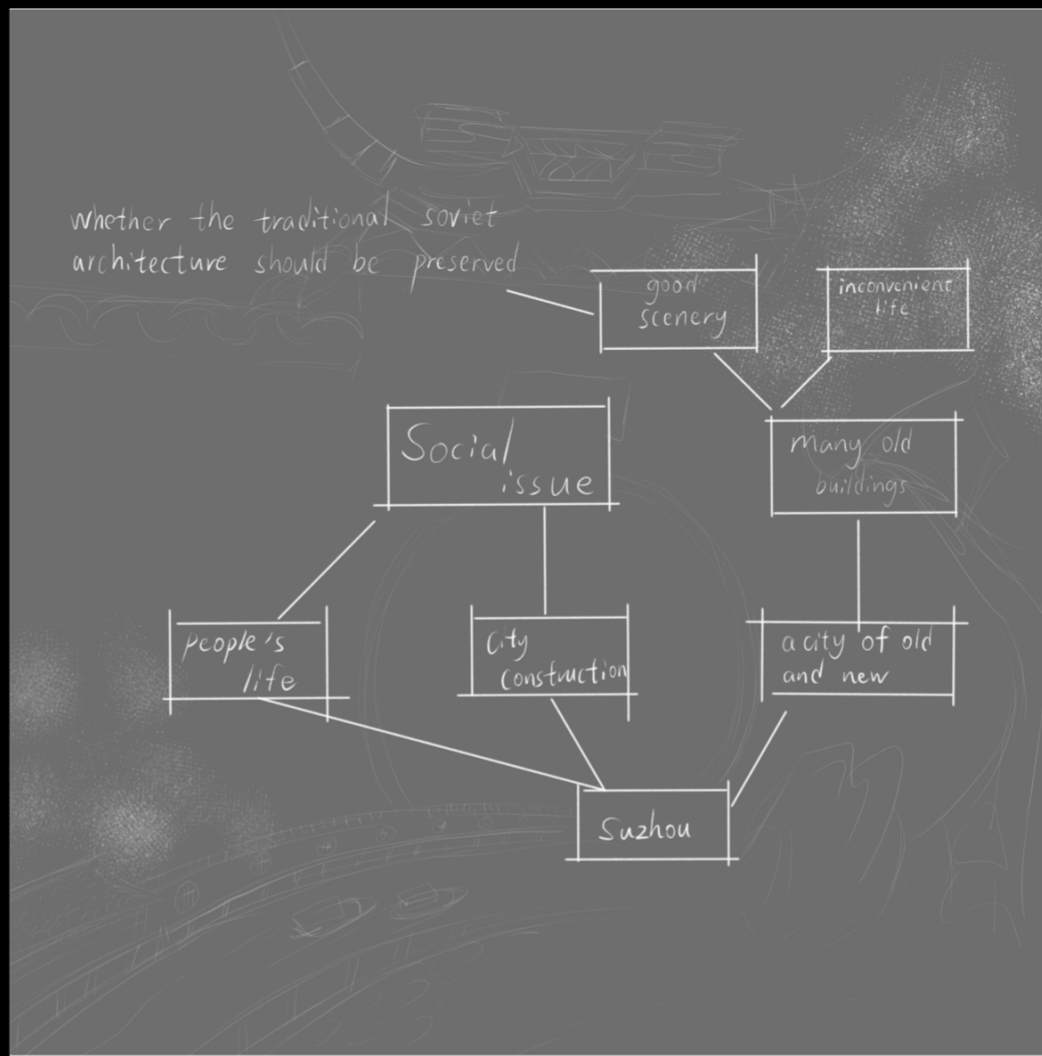
inspiration source

My hometown has always been famous for its traditional architectural styles such as ancient architecture, small bridges and flowing water, and various gardens are also countless. However, as times gradually change and the government orders that these traditional buildings cannot be demolished, will it have an impact on social development and the quality of life of the people? Should they be retained or not?

Theme Explanation

I plan to take photos of the scenery of some ancient buildings, tourist destinations, and showcase the spectacular and beautiful scenery there. Additionally, I plan to take photos of the houses of ordinary people in ancient towns, showcasing the impact of ancient houses not keeping up with the times on their lives. This creates a contrast and triggers people's thinking about whether ancient architecture should be preserved.

Research practice

After learning about artists, I went outside to take a group of photos according to my theme. During the shooting process, I lowered the exposure so as to bring out the ancient feeling.

Whether the traditional soviet architecture should be preserved

good scenery · inconvenient life · Social issue · many old buildings · people's life · City construction · a city of old and new · Suzhou

Photographer research

Introduction to photographers

Lu Guang, born in 1961 in Yongkang, Zhejiang, is a freelance photographer and a member of the China Photographers Association. He is also a recipient of the Golden Image Award at the highest prize in Chinese photography art and an excellent photographer with both moral and artistic qualities.

Research on Photographer's Works

Among China's documentary photographers, Lu Guang is definitely a landmark figure. From winning the award in the Netherlands to the Eugene Smith Annual Award, his lens tirelessly scans the dirty corners of the society, goes deep into the tiger's den again and again, boldly exposes, and faces the various social situations: the western gold rush, drug abuse and drug prohibition, small coal mines, AIDS villages, and the construction of the Beijing Hangzhou Grand Canal, the Three Gorges, and the Qinghai Tibet Railway, all of which are true records almost bought with life, It has caused great shock in the industry and society, and has also brought countless honors to Lu Guang.

Photographer Style

The photos taken by Lu Guang are authentic and deeply reflect some social issues in China, revealing the dark side of things to everyone. His photo style is realistic with low saturation, which is very suitable for the theme he is shooting. My theme is also documenting and reflecting social issues, so I plan to learn his composition, style, and colors.
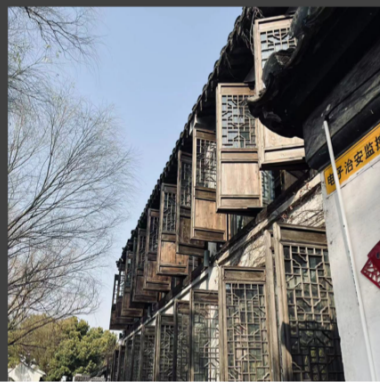
whether ancient building *should be preserved*

The research of the shooting location

Before shooting, I checked the regional distribution and transformation degree of Suzhou on the Internet. I found that most of the ancient buildings are distributed in the ancient city district, so I planned to shoot there. During my research, I also found that only the scenic area retained the ancient buildings of Suzhou long ago. The so-called ancient buildings were not completely left over from ancient times, but some streets with traditional architectural styles were retained after secondary transformation. Most are the result of incomplete modifications decades ago.

Photo selection

I originally planned to use this picture, but I found the battery car in the picture was too conspicuous. I wanted the old man to be the subject of the picture, but there was no way to remove the battery car, so I gave up the picture.

The investigation of the door

I also visited some places to get a sense of the interiors of such buildings. In the process of searching, I found that the doors of these residences are very narrow, and all shabby, this is also a unified style of the street. So I took some pictures of this kind of door and used the door as the main subject.

Regional study

I investigated the distribution structure of buildings in Suzhou on the Internet and learned that this street is located in the ancient city.

There are many wires over this narrow corridor, which makes it more cluttered and crowded.

This is a shed on the side of the road where battery cars are parked. It is very narrow and reflects the inconvenient life of this building, so I took pictures and recorded it.

I hesitated for a long time between the two photos, but finally I chose the one on the left because it had a clearer perspective and a more orderly picture.

Technological update

After several observations, I decided to take these pictures in the afternoon, as the old alley was not well lit and it was difficult to see at night. And it's not clear. So I came here on a sunny afternoon, but found it hard to see inside. Then I decided to let the light in at a certain Angle and turn up the ISO to make the surroundings brighter.

whether ancient building should be preserved

Later retouching and background introduction

iso 50   f 1.6

parameter adjustment

I turned up the brightness and contrast of these two images, and used the center composition method in both images. This adjustment makes the picture more stable and clearer.

parameter adjustment

I also adjusted the colors in this picture of the building and the pole together. I increased the red hue and lowered the saturation of all the colors.

Embodiment of details

I found that all kinds of ancient architectural attractions Li often appear this kind of red lanterns, or decoration, which is also a characteristic culture of classical architecture.

Human geography investigation

The first place I went was Taohuawu, which was mostly former residents Most of the people living there are old people, transportation, food and other aspects are not developed.

The second place I visited was the Pingjiang Road Historic District, which is a scenic spot but the surrounding houses have not been demolished. So it kept some of these old houses, in some of the little alleys on the side of the street.

The relationship between the latter and the subject

I raised the contrast uniformly, or raised the dark part and lowered it both ways. This gives a low saturation, old style. It shows the long history of the old building, as well as giving people a shabby, not easy to live in the feeling.

Influence of sunlight

I went to this place at different times of the day and noticed that the sun's rays cast different shadows on the ground, and this is in the afternoon.
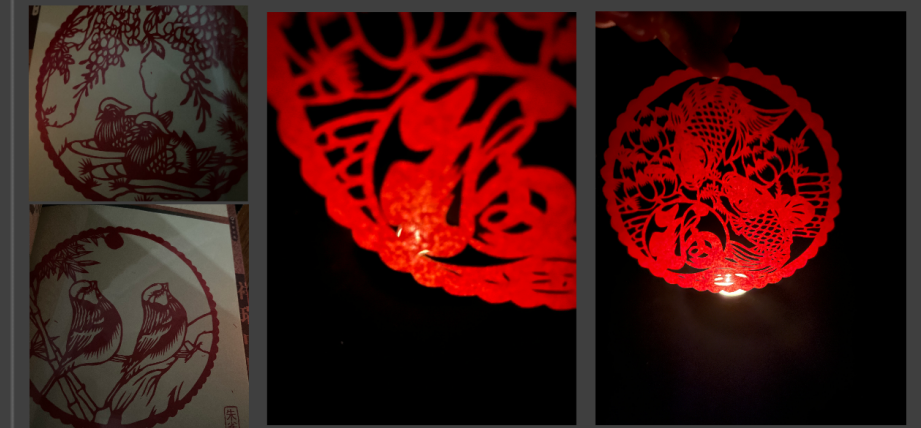
Test of perspective

I found that some of the corridors in the street were so narrow that it was difficult even for a person to pass through, which I thought was a good indication of the inconveniences of living in such houses. I shot from right in the middle of the aisle, and this perspective composition better reflects its narrowness.

Material test

I went and made some splices with the paper cuts from the book. Paper-cutting is originally a kind of craft in ancient China. Using this medium to show classical architecture, it further deepens its cultural characteristics.

whether
ancient
building
should be
preserved

Summary of works

My topic is about whether we should keep the old buildings in Suzhou. Starting from "the life of traditional houses is not convenient", I expounded the view that architecture should serve residents based on the comparison of three groups of photos, scenic spots and residential areas. Besides, I used the rule of thirds and perspective composition to present the narrow distance and dilapidated walls of old-style buildings, so as to express the feeling of being confined by space.