Candidate 6 – Le Mont Saint Michel
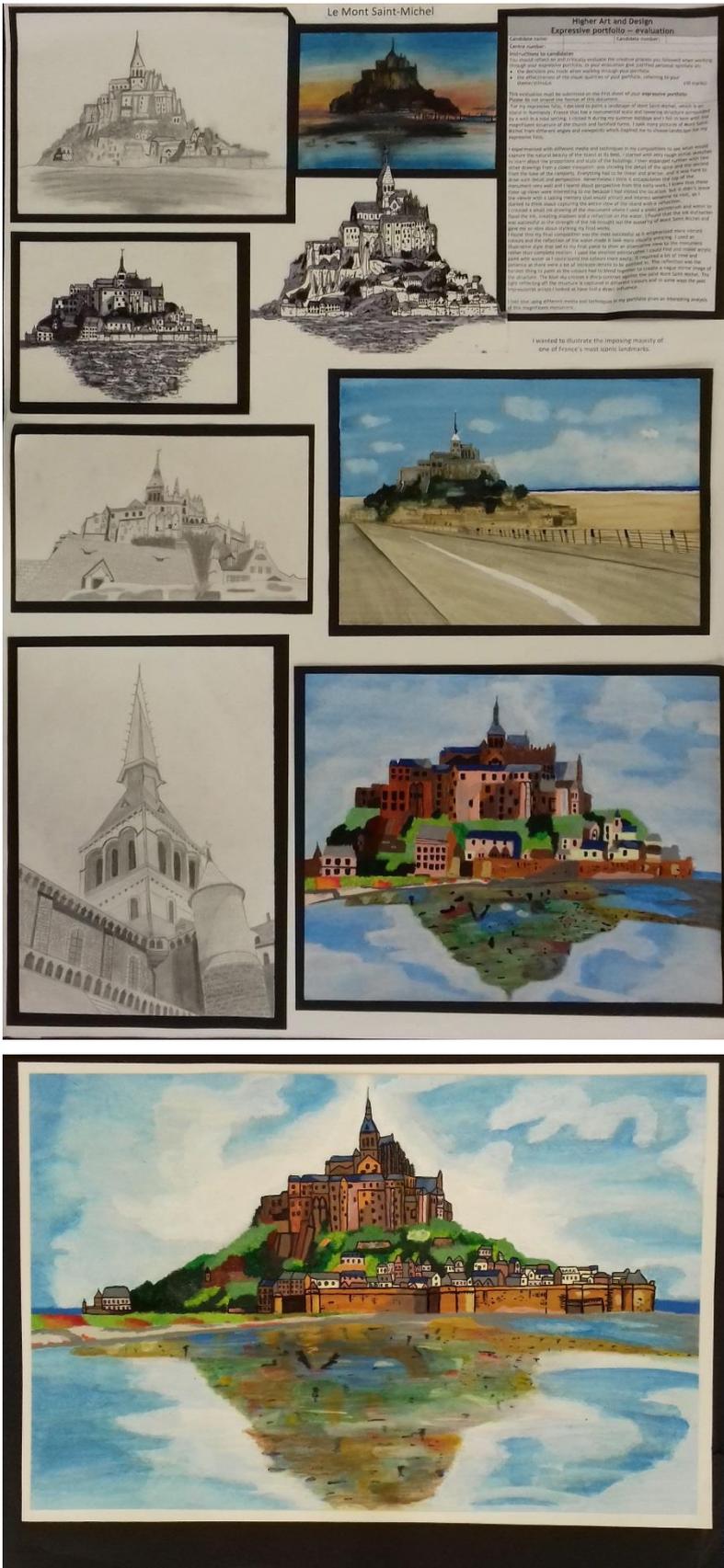
Process	10/10
	16/30
Skills	12/25
	10/25
Sub-total	**48/90**
Evaluation	8/10
TOTAL	**56/100**

Higher Art and Design Evaluation		Expressive portfolio	
Candidate name:	xxxxxxxxxxx	**Candidate number:**	xxxxxxxxx
Centre number:	xxxxxxx		

Instructions to candidates

You should reflect on and evaluate the creative process you followed when working through your Expressive portfolio. In your evaluation give justified personal opinions on:

♦ the decisions you made when working through your Portfolio;

♦ the effectiveness of the visual qualities of your Portfolio, referring to your theme/stimulus.   (10 marks)

For my expressive folio, I decided to paint a landscape of Mont Saint-Michel, which is an island in Normandy, France that has a monumental scale and towering structure surrounded by a wall in a tidal setting. I visited it during my summer holidays and I fell in love with the magnificent structure of the church and fortified forms. I took many pictures of Mont Saint-Michel from different angles and viewpoints which inspired me to choose landscape for my expressive folio.

I experimented with different media and techniques in my compositions to see what would capture the natural beauty of the island at its best. I started with very rough initial sketches to learn about the proportions and scale of the buildings. I then expanded further with two other drawings from a closer viewpoint: one showing the detail of the spire and the second from the base of the ramparts. Everything had to be linear and precise, and it was hard to draw such detail and perspective. Nevertheless I think it encapsulates the top of the monument very well and I learnt about perspective from this early work. I knew that these close up views were interesting to me because I had visited the location, but it didn't leave the viewer with the lasting memory that would attract and interest someone to visit, so I started to think about capturing the entire view of the island with a reflection.

I created a small ink drawing of the monument where I used a small paint brush and water to flood the ink, creating shadows and a reflection on the water. I found that ink stylisation was successful as the strength of the ink brought out the austerity of Mont Saint-Michel and gave me an idea about stylising my final works.

I found that my final composition was the most successful as it emphasized more vibrant colours and the reflection of the water made it look more visually enticing. I used an illustrative style that let to my final piece to show an alternative view to the monument rather than complete realism. I used the smallest paintbrushes I could find and mixed acrylic paint with water so I could blend the colours more easily. It required a lot of time and patience as there were a lot of intricate details to be painted in. The reflection was the hardest thing to paint as the colours had to blend together to create a vague mirror image of the structure. The blue sky creates a sharp contrast against the solid Mont Saint-Michel. The light reflecting off the structure is captured in different colours and in some ways the post impressionist artists I looked at have had a direct influence.

I feel that using different media and techniques in my portfolio gives an interesting analysis of this magnificent monument.

Higher Expressive Portfolio Commentary

Portfolio: Le Mont Saint Michel

Section 1 - Expressive Portfolio - Process

Producing relevant and focused 2D/3D analytical drawings, studies and investigative research appropriate to their theme or stimulus and their line of development

Limited relevance		All studies are highly relevant to the theme and inform the further development of the folio.
Partially relevant		
Relevant		
Highly relevant	10/10	

Demonstrating a single line of focused development, showing visual continuity and the refinement of one idea, and producing a final piece

Limited effectiveness		The candidate has developed an effective single line of enquiry with studies that link to their final solution. These studies could have been developed further, to fully explore the potential within the idea to gain additional marks, considering alternatives and refining the final outcome.
Partially effective		
Effective	16/30	
Highly effective		

Section 2 - Expressive Portfolio - Skills

Creatively and skilfully using appropriate materials, techniques and/or technology for visual effect in response to their theme or stimulus

Limited effectiveness		Partially effective skills and handling of materials are evident within the development stage of the folio, with some skilful use of pen and ink, pencil and watercolour paint. As the folio progresses into the final outcome these skills become less refined, with simplified handling of materials evident in the final outcome, which lacks the detail displayed earlier in the folio.
Partially effective	12/25	
Effective		
Highly effective		

Creatively and skilfully using appropriate visual elements and expressive effects in response to their theme or stimulus

Limited effectiveness		Partially effective use of the visual elements are evident throughout the folio with some stronger use of tone and representation of texture. The candidate has explored limited compositional ideas and viewpoints and has missed opportunities to develop the mood and atmosphere throughout the folio.
Partially effective	10/25	
Effective		
Highly effective		

Section 3 - Expressive Portfolio - Evaluation

Giving justified personal opinions on the decisions made when working through their expressive portfolio and evaluating the effectiveness of the visual qualities of their expressive portfolio with reference to their theme/stimulus

Limited justified		The candidate has made valid and justified evaluative points about the decisions they have made and the quality of their folio.
Partially justified		
Justified	8/10	
Fully justified		