



PRINCIPAL MODERATOR'S REPORT

**ENTRY PATHWAYS
HUMANITIES**

SUMMER 2016

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Principal Moderator: Peter Corr

General Comments

Centres submitted candidate work from a large number of units. In the majority of cases the work demonstrated positive achievement on the part of the candidates. It is evident that the Humanities course, when well-planned and delivered, offers good learning experiences and positive outcomes to candidates working at Entry Level as well as much enjoyment. It is very pleasing to report that the majority of centres acted upon the specific comments made by the moderating team in previous centre reports and those in the Principal Moderator's reports. The work highlighted many different approaches to delivering the Entry Pathways Humanities course with candidates showing their knowledge, understanding and skills in a multitude of ways. This is to be encouraged.

Administration

All centres submitted appropriate samples of candidate work within the specified time frame. The vast majority of work submitted for moderation by centres was presented in a professional manner and easy to follow. It was clearly labelled with centre name and candidate number which made moderation easier.

A few centres submitted work by candidate rather than by unit. Candidate work should be collated and submitted by unit and not by individual candidate. This is because the moderating team needs to see evidence of teacher understanding of the unit requirements, as well as the individual candidates. Submitting work in this way also helps centres as it provides a means to check that there is evidence for each assessment criterion and so simplifies internal moderation.

The administration of the Entry Pathways Humanities course continues to improve and is of a high standard. Virtually all centres completed appropriately the documentation required for moderation, e.g. Candidate Authentication Sheets, Assessment Record Sheets and Witness Statements.

However, it should be noted that sufficient detail should be provided on the Assessment Record Sheet to show exactly where in the work submitted a candidate has fully met all the assessment criteria. Teachers must check that all assessment criteria for an individual unit have been fully met by a candidate before submitting the work to be moderated. **If all Assessment Criteria (as set out in the unit specification) have not been met and cannot be evidenced the work should not be submitted to WJEC for moderation.** Internal verification or standardisation in centres is very useful in this respect.

Centres made better use of Witness Statements. In cases of best practice, they verified the work of individual candidates, providing a description of the activity undertaken and/or the specific candidate responses. One generic Witness Statement for a whole class is not sufficient. Centres should use the Witness Statements provided by WJEC.

Content and Tasks

The majority of the tasks set for the units moderated were appropriate for candidates working at Entry Level. These tasks and content clearly met the Assessment Criteria for the units being taught.

Many teachers made good use of the content amplifications and exemplar tasks set out in the unit specifications. In the cases of best practice, candidate work had appropriate titles and sub titles that related to the Assessment Criteria. The tasks set allowed individual candidates to demonstrate appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills related to the units being delivered by the centres. A lot of the work submitted for moderation demonstrated good learning from the candidates and it was clear that considerable work had been put in to the completion of the tasks.

In a small number of cases the content was not appropriate and did not fit in with the assessment criteria. All teachers of this course, and especially non-specialist teachers of any of the units, are encouraged to carefully read the content amplification provided in each unit specification. Teachers can seek advice on any matter by getting in contact with one of the moderating team through the Subject Officer at WJEC (contact details on Humanities Pathways section of the WJEC web site).

Assessment

The majority of centres entered candidate work at the appropriate level – Entry Level 2 or Entry Level 3. The assessment clearly showed how candidates had achieved the criteria.

Annotations

In the majority of centres, candidate work was annotated to show where and how the Assessment Criteria had been achieved. Teacher annotations were appropriate, well referenced on the Assessment Record form and facilitated the moderation process.

In a small number of centres not all of the candidate work appeared to have been marked. Teachers should clearly indicate if work has been accepted as being correct and annotate it to evidence the achievement of specific assessment criteria.

Recommendations for future submissions

- Mark all candidate work submitted for moderation
- Annotate completed candidate work with assessment criteria
- Check that all assessment criteria have been met for each unit by each candidate
- Carry out internal standardisation
- Do not submit candidate work for moderation if all assessment criteria have not been clearly and fully met by the candidate
- Use Assessment Record Sheet to provide precise details on where and how assessment criteria have been met

- Follow WJEC guidance on the appropriate completion of Witness Statements
- Arrange candidate work in order of the assessment criteria
- Submit all work by unit and not by candidate
- Read guidance given to teachers in the unit specifications, e.g. amplification of content, resources and examples of tasks and methods of assessment
- Read previous Centre Reports from your Moderator and the Reports of the Principal Moderator and take note of all comments and recommendations
- Contact WJEC Subject Officer if you require advice or help with any matter relating to the Entry Pathways Humanities course



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