



THE BARE BONES

- The dos and don'ts of evaluation.
- Phrases to use and some to avoid.
- Make sure you evaluate the right things by referring back to the assessment objectives.

This section includes sample phrases used by GCSE students to evaluate their work. They are not here for you to copy, but you may be able to adapt them to fit your own experience.

STUDY HINT

AO 1: First- and second-hand research

Do use phrases like	Don't use phrases like
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When I started out I wanted to . . . and so I began by collecting . . .• As my collection grew my idea changed from . . . to . . .• When I looked really closely at work by . . . I discovered that• I chose to draw . . . because they fitted in with my theme by . . .• I think my observation skills have improved as I have worked on this . . . because I have managed to create a better sense of 3-D form than I have in the past.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Here are some pictures I have collected from magazines and off the Internet. <i>(Say why you chose them. What did you do with the ones you haven't used?)</i>• This is a drawing of . . . I have done using . . . , and I am quite pleased with it. <i>(Doesn't say why you chose the particular object or media. What do you think is good about it?)</i>• I studied this picture and then did a version of my own in pencil. <i>(Why?)</i>

AO 2: Historical, critical and contextual studies

Do use phrases like	Don't use phrases like
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The artist has used lines and shapes that are rhythmical and wavy. The picture is of a flower, a natural object. The wavy lines remind me of water flowing in a river, which is also natural.• . . . inspired me a lot. I particularly like the way he distorted people's faces, so I made a distorted picture of him.• I like the work of . . . He used clouds to create a dreamy, floating feeling. I have drawn objects changing into other objects like in dreams.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are many different types of art form, here I have picked out some that I found. <i>(This phrase is only a heading. Describe the art forms you have chosen, in colours, textures, patterns and shapes.)</i>• . . . was the most sophisticated of the major pop artists in terms of his astute analysis of visual convention and his ironic exploitation of past styles. <i>(This is obviously copied from somewhere. Explain it in your own words.)</i>

AO 3: Experimenting with art media

Do use phrases like	Don't use phrases like
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One idea I had was to . . . As I worked on it, another idea I had was . . . This in turn led me to think of . . . Finally, I put two of these ideas together and got . . .• At the start, I found it very hard to draw because . . . but, after I had practised with <media> my drawing improved and became . . .• By using <media> in this way, I managed to create the effect of a rough, and textured surface that goes well with my theme. I experimented by adding <another medium> but this was difficult to work with and the effect was lost.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I used different media to create different effects. <i>(Be specific and explain what effects were created by which media.)</i>

AO 4: Making links between your work and research

Do use phrases like	Don't use phrases like
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I think my final piece is successful because . . .• I am pleased with the way my final piece came out because . . .• As I worked on my final piece I discovered that . . . and so I used this to help me achieve a better effect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If I had more time I would have done it better. <i>(This phrase is actually saying 'I didn't use the preparation period properly to plan out my final piece!')</i>• I think my final piece is quite good and I'm quite pleased with it. <i>(This is a very lukewarm comment. Does your work have an equal amount of good bits and not so good bits?)</i>

Draw a line across two pages in your work journal: 'Strengths' written at one end and 'Weaknesses' at the other. Place descriptions of your work along this line and explain why you placed them there.

STUDY HINT

