

Extended Essay: Exemplar Commentary

Subject	Visual Arts	If applicable, theme for WSEE	
If applicable, category for language essays		If applicable, subjects used for WSEE	
Title of essay	Title: Emotions in the Surrealist Works of Salvador Dali Research Question: How did Salvador Dali's Use of the Surrealism Movement Evoke Emotion?		
Essay number		Examination session	

Assessment of extended essay

Criteria	Mark awarded	Commentary
A: Focus and method [6]	4	The research topic is communicated and focused, but the discussion in the essay is only partially focused and connected to the research question - the emotional content of the paintings considered in the essay, and how Salvador Dali used surrealist strategies to communicate emotional sensations to viewers of his work, receives superficial treatment. The selection of sources is limited - much of it appears to be of a general nature and internet based.
B: Knowledge and understanding [6]	4	The selection of source material is mostly relevant and appropriate to the research question. Both application of sources and demonstration of knowledge of the topic are only partially effective. Subject specific terminology is for the most part adequate, but no real distinction is made between emotion, idea, anxiety and the subconscious. As it is, these concepts seem to be applied almost interchangeably.
C: Critical thinking [12]	5	The best-fit approach is called for in applying Criterion C: The application of the research presented is limited and its relevance to the RQ, "How did Salvador Dali's Use of the Surrealism Movement Evoke Emotion?" is not entirely clear (level 3). There is some good analysis of the paintings discussed in the essay, partially relevant to the research question (level 6). The discussion and

		evaluation are adequate, but the reasoning contains inconsistencies. Although the candidate does not stick to the research question, some of the points made are valid, clear and connected with the research (level 5).
D: Presentation [4]	2	The essay only partially meets the requirements for the formal presentation. Images are appropriately referenced, but do not appear in the body of the text. Most, but not all quotations have been referenced. Quotation marks are placed after parenthetical citations, rather than after the last word of the actual quote. Citations are provided for general information from the research, but URLs for sources indicated in the main text, e.g. Salvador-dali.org and theartstory.org, are not listed as such in the bibliography.
E: Engagement [6] (not included)		The assessment of an accompanying RPPF will affect the overall mark awarded and the grade achieved.
Total marks awarded	15/28	For an essay ostensibly about how Dali used surrealist strategies to evoke an emotional response in viewers of his work, there is little discussion about what these emotions are supposed to be, as if they are either too obvious or too mysterious to mention. Instead, descriptive accounts of the three paintings in question are followed by brief analysis of their content and palette, accompanied by references to a limited number of internet sources. Please note: as a result of modifying existing extended essays for illustrative purposes, not all exemplars have an accompanying RPPF for assessment under criterion E (this is a mandatory element for all essays as of 2018). As a result this essay has been marked out of 28 rather than 34.