



National  
Qualifications  
RESOURCE

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**X855/76/01**

**Photography**

## **Marking Instructions**

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Please note that these marking instructions have not been standardised based on candidate responses. You may therefore need to agree within your centre how to consistently mark an item if a candidate response is not covered by the marking instructions.

## General marking principles for Higher Photography

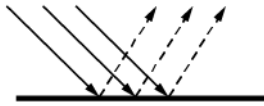
*Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.*

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Consider the extent to which the candidate's response:
  - answers the specifics of the question
  - demonstrates knowledge and understanding of photography.
- (d) In Section 2 full marks are available whether responses are provided in continuous prose, linked statements or a series of developed points.
- (e) Do not award marks for mere descriptive comment. To gain marks, candidates must develop and justify their points. Only award marks for a valid response to the question asked. For example, in response to questions that ask candidates to:
  - **identify** – they must give the name required (for example a specific camera control, technique, effect)
  - **explain** – they must apply their knowledge and understanding of light and image formation, camera controls, image-making techniques and their effects to relate **cause** and **effect** and/or make relationships between things clear
  - **discuss** – they must apply their knowledge and understanding of image-making techniques, and their effects, to communicate ideas and information about the photographer's technical and creative decisions; they must draw valid conclusions and give explanations supported by **justification**.
- (f) To gain full marks, candidates must respond to all aspects of the question.
- (g) Do not award marks for repetition of points that the candidate has not developed further in any way.

## Marking instructions for each question

### SECTION 1

If a candidate has selected more than one option in response to a question, do not award a mark.  
Do not award a mark if it is unclear which option the candidate has selected.

Question	Answer	Max mark
1.	Shutter speed, aperture and ISO	1
2.	f1.4	1
3.	Soft	1
4.	Top left image	1
5.	Tungsten	1
6.	Aperture is closed down	1
7.	Website graphic	1
8.	8mm	1
9.	A high ISO	1
10.		1

SECTION 2

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
11.	(a)	<p><b>Camera control</b> shutter speed.</p> <p><b>Explanation</b> used to create a long exposure. This has created motion blur in the movement of the water.</p>	2	<p><b>Award 1 mark</b> for correct identification of the camera control.</p> <p><b>Award 1 mark</b> for a correct explanation.</p> <p>Any other valid explanation relating to the use of an appropriate camera control on the appearance of the water.</p>
	(b)	<p><b>Tripod</b> – the tripod has been used to stabilise the camera during the long exposure of the water to ensure the rest of the scene remains sharp.</p> <p><b>Light meter</b> – the photographer has used a light meter to ensure the image is evenly exposed throughout due to the extreme tonal range within the scene.</p> <p><b>Wide angle lens</b> – a wide angle lens has been used in portrait orientation to capture more of the scene than a standard lens.</p> <p><b>Cable or remote shutter release</b> – the photographer has used a remote shutter release so that the photographer can access the low position of the camera.</p> <p><b>Polarising filter</b> – a polarising filter was used to remove the reflected light and make the colours more vibrant.</p> <p><b>Neutral density filter</b> – a neutral density filter has been used to reduce the amount of daylight entering the camera to allow an appropriate exposure.</p>	4	<p><b>Award 1 mark</b> for each correct identification of a piece of equipment with a valid explanation of its purpose, up to a <b>maximum of 4 marks</b>.</p> <p>The column on the left outlines examples of points which would gain marks.</p> <p>Any other piece of equipment with a valid explanation of its purpose when creating this image.</p>

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
	(c)	<p><b>Centre of interest</b> – the waterfall is a centre of interest in the photograph as it is in the foreground, making it more prominent in the composition.</p> <p><b>Scale</b> – the mountain top is covered in clouds which highlights the scale of the landscape creating a more dramatic scene.</p> <p><b>Rule of thirds</b> – the placement of the tree, one third in from the left, creates a visual rest for the viewer’s eye by linking the foreground and background.</p> <p><b>Camera angle</b> – the camera is positioned lower than eye level which makes the mountain look more imposing and increases the amount of foreground.</p> <p><b>Leading lines</b> – the river creates a leading line which connects the foreground to the background, inviting the viewer further into the landscape.</p> <p><b>Symmetry</b> – the horizon line and edge of the waterfall create a triangular/diamond shape within the composition giving the image a sense of structure.</p>	4	<p><b>Award 1 mark</b> for each justified explanation relating to how the photographer has used compositional techniques, up to a <b>maximum of 4 marks</b>.</p> <p>The column on the left outlines examples of points which would gain marks.</p> <p>Any other valid justified points on how the photographer has used compositional techniques for visual effect in this image.</p>

Question	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
12.	<p><b>Technical</b></p> <p><b>Lighting</b> – the light source in this image is harsh because the shot has been taken under direct sunlight which creates strong shadows on the ground.</p> <p><b>ISO</b> – as it is a bright sunny day the photographer has selected a low ISO number which makes the image sensor less sensitive to light, avoiding over-exposure within the image.</p> <p><b>Shutter speed</b> – ThuYa has used a fast shutter speed to freeze the movement of the woman working. This ensures that the scene is free from motion blur creating a crisp, sharp image.</p> <p>The photographer has selected a fast shutter speed because of the bright lighting conditions. This would allow the photographer to control the exposure of the scene by restricting the amount of time that the shutter is open for.</p> <p><b>White balance</b> – the white balance setting of Daylight could have been used because it is a bright, sunny day. This would ensure that the white umbrellas do not pick up a colour cast.</p> <p><b>Landscape pre-set mode</b> – the photographer has chosen to capture this scene using the landscape pre-set mode. The camera has then selected a small aperture which ensures all the umbrellas from foreground to background are in focus.</p>	10	<p>Award <b>1 mark</b> for each justified point discussing the photographer’s technical and creative decisions, up to a <b>maximum of 10 marks</b>.</p> <p>Responses must demonstrate knowledge and understanding of image-making techniques and their effects.</p> <p>The column on the left outlines examples of points which would gain marks.</p> <p>Any other valid justified points discussing the photographer’s technical and creative decisions.</p>

Question	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p><b>Reflector</b> – the umbrella that the woman is holding acts as a reflector which bounces the sunlight onto her body making the green of her dress less dark and more vivid.</p> <p><b>Telephoto lens</b> – the photographer could have shot this image using a telephoto lens which has flattened the distance between the rows of umbrellas cutting out the negative space and making them appear close together.</p> <p><b>Creative</b></p> <p><b>Depth of field</b> – a small aperture/high f-number has been selected to capture a wide depth of field ensuring the foreground and background are in focus, drawing the viewer’s eye to all aspects within the scene.</p> <p><b>Candid shot/pose</b> – it looks like the woman is unaware that she has been photographed and is looking down with a paintbrush in her hand. This gives the impression that she is hard at work and does not have time to look up and smile for her photograph, giving the image a natural feeling.</p> <p><b>Colour</b> – there is very little colour within this scene, the most obvious being the worker’s dress. The dress is bright green and contrasts with the lack of colour in the umbrellas making her stand out to the viewer.</p> <p>The green of the woman’s clothes and the red of the paintbrush handle are complimentary colours which contrast, making each other appear brighter in the shot. This draws the viewer’s eye to her action.</p> <p><b>Pattern</b> – the repeating pattern of the circles and ellipses lead the viewer’s eye across the image encouraging them to take in the whole scene.</p>		

Question	Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
	<p><b>Point of interest</b> – the main point of interest within the image is the woman as she has been placed in the centre of the composition. This highlights her importance in the production of the umbrellas.</p> <p><b>Leading lines</b> – the points on each of the umbrellas are all pointing inwards which creates a series of suggested lines. This focuses the viewer’s attention on the centre of the image where each of these point to.</p> <p>The placement of the umbrellas creates a spiral from the outer edge inwards, which leads the viewer’s eye around the shot and in towards the worker, emphasising her importance.</p> <p><b>Camera angle/viewpoint</b> – the shot has been taken from a high viewpoint which creates the impression that the viewer is looking down on the subject. This makes the viewer feel that they are observing a solitary figure focused on her work.</p> <p>The shot has been taken from a high viewpoint which looks down on the scene. This has allowed the photographer to fill more of the frame with the umbrellas, highlighting the amount that the woman has made.</p> <p><b>Framing</b> – the photographer has chosen to capture the number of umbrellas that the lady has made, filling the top half of the composition. This creates contrast with the empty space around her, suggesting that she still has more to make.</p> <p><b>Use of space</b> – the composition appears quite cluttered as the photographer has filled the frame. The repetition of simple shapes, colours and tones, gives the image a sense of calm, not clutter suggesting that her work is organized and structured.</p>		



Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
			<p><b>Scale</b> – as the umbrellas fill most of the shot, the woman is made to appear very small, creating a sense of vulnerability. It appears as though she is protecting herself with the rows of umbrellas that she is making.</p> <p><b>Shape</b> – the shape of the woman’s hat echoes the shape of the umbrellas, linking her to her work, and creates harmony across the image.</p>		

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]