

## Integrated Skills in English

### ISE IV

### 2017 Portfolio tasks

1. These are the only acceptable tasks for candidates taking the ISE IV examination from **01 January 2017 - 31 December 2017**. Your ISE IV portfolio tasks must come from this list.
2. Your ISE IV Portfolio must contain a total of three tasks. You **must** present one task from each section:
  - One from Section 1 — Correspondence
  - One from Section 2 — Factual writing
  - One from Section 3 — Critical and analytical writing
3. Please write the task question number on each piece of work.
4. At the end of each task, write the number of words you have used to complete the task. You must not exceed the stated maximum word length range.

# ISE IV Portfolio Preparation Rules

ISE IV Candidates must follow these important rules when preparing their portfolio tasks:

1. The Portfolio must contain the candidate's own work and no one else's.
2. Nobody except the candidate personally should correct, add to or take anything out of a task.
3. Teachers (or any other person) must not correct a candidate's work.
4. Teachers are allowed to give one piece of feedback per portfolio task only. The ISE IV student portfolio feedback form should be used for this purpose. This must be the only form of feedback given.
5. No one except the candidate's teacher is permitted to give the candidate feedback on their work.
6. Candidates must not copy a piece of written text from any other source and present it as their own.

Please note if any of the above rules are broken, a U (Ungraded) grade is awarded by the examiner and the candidate will score zero in his/her portfolio.

## **Candidate disqualification warning!**

Trinity will not tolerate any cheating, unfair practice or breach of its rules and regulations. Candidates found to have committed any such conduct will be disqualified.

# ISE IV – PORTFOLIO TASKS 2017

## SECTION 1

### ISE IV – Correspondence (word length range: 300–350 words)

1. **For many years your city has hosted an annual carnival with a huge procession and a programme of smaller events such as concerts, plays and art exhibitions. However, the city authorities have just announced that due to budget cuts there will be no carnival this year.**

Write a formal letter to the city authorities affirming your understanding of the difficulties they face, but contradicting their conclusion that cancelling the carnival is the best way forward.

**AND**

Write an informal email to your friends urging them to put pressure on the city authorities to ensure that the carnival continues.

2. **A government proposal has been put forward that children should spend more time using computers in the classroom rather than learning handwriting skills.**

Develop an online forum with two or more contributors in which the value of handwriting is affirmed, a counter-argument presented and a personal experience reflected upon.

3. **A local business organisation has invited nominations for an award for the best company in your area.**

Write a formal letter to the business organisation's committee outlining why a company you are familiar with should be nominated and analysing this company's likely impact on the local economy in the future.

**AND**

Write an informal email to a group of local residents advising them to back this company in its bid to win the award.

4. **Your local school is going to be merged with a larger school in another town. Local residents and the teaching staff are strongly against this proposal.**

Write a letter to your local education authority opposing this action and assessing what the effects on local people will be.

**AND**

Write an email to a teacher at your local school whom you know personally. Affirm your support for her and her colleagues in opposing the merger.

5. A multinational development company is applying for permission to build a huge shopping and leisure complex on the outskirts of your town. Residents and shopkeepers are sharply divided over whether this should be allowed.

Develop an online forum with two or more contributors in which the argument for an out-of-town complex is asserted and a counter-argument presented. Conclude by proposing a future course of action.

Remember – you must choose your ISE IV correspondence task from the above list.

Please note the word length range given above for ISE IV correspondence tasks is for the whole task e.g. letter and email. Dividing the word length between the individual pieces of correspondence is the responsibility of each candidate. However, you must not exceed the stated maximum word length range.

## SECTION 2

### ISE IV – Factual writing (word length range: 300-350 words)

1. **What is more critical to a novelist's creative process: experience or imagination?**

Write an article for an arts magazine analysing whether a novelist's own experiences should be their main source of inspiration or whether a vivid imagination is all that is needed. Give examples to support your arguments.

2. **A cashless society: Are we prepared for it?**

Write a report for a consumer group evaluating to what extent people in your country are already living in a cashless society. Identify the potential risks associated with such a system and propose measures to minimise any negative effects.

3. **There is a belief that fantasy films and TV series bear no relation to reality.**

Write a review of a fantasy film or TV series identifying its main themes, evaluating to what extent its content is based on reality and assessing the level of popularity it achieved.

4. **We've learnt nothing of any real value from space exploration, so we should stop channelling vast resources into it.**

Write an article for a science magazine outlining your views on this statement, assessing the value of any discoveries made. Conclude with your views on the future role of space exploration.

5. **Children are spending less and less time outdoors and as a consequence are losing contact with the natural world.**

Write a report for an environmental charity exploring some reasons why children no longer play outside, evaluating the potential long-term effects of this and proposing some ways that children could be encouraged to spend more time outdoors.

**Remember – you must choose your ISE IV factual writing task from the above list.**

## SECTION 3

### ISE IV – Critical and analytical writing (word length range: 300-350 words)

1. **'Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower.'** (Steve Jobs, inventor, 1955-2011)

Write an essay assessing the validity of this statement in the world of business today. Outline other qualities that you feel may be equally important in a leader. Support your assertions with relevant examples.

2. **'Integrity means that you are the same in public as you are in private.'** (Joyce Meyer, author, born 1943)

Write an essay evaluating how realistic it is for public figures to live up to this definition of integrity in all areas of their lives, supporting your points with relevant examples. Conclude with your own view on what constitutes integrity in public figures.

3. **'Not all those who wander are lost.'** (JRR Tolkien, author, 1892 - 1973)

Discuss what you understand by this statement in relation to our search for knowledge and consider its relevance in today's society. Give examples to support your viewpoint.

4. **'Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.'** (Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, 1874-1965)

Write an essay evaluating to what extent you agree with the idea that failure leads to success in life and asserting how success can be measured. Support your arguments with relevant examples.

5. **'One must always be careful of books and what is inside them, for words have the power to change us.'** (Cassandra Clare, author, born 1973)

Write an essay evaluating to what extent you agree with the idea that books can change people and affirming whether the written or spoken word is more powerful in today's society. Support your arguments with relevant examples.

Remember – you must choose your ISE IV critical and analytical writing task from the above list.