

Integrated Skills in English

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2025

These are the only acceptable portfolio tasks for candidates taking the ISE IV exam from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

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

Please write the task question number on each piece of work.

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 and teachers must follow these important rules when preparing 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 work.

Please note that if any of the above rules are broken, a U (Ungraded) grade will be 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 2025

Section 1

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

- 1. There is not always great diversity among people working within science and technological industries. It should become more representative of society.**

Write a formal letter to the editor of a national newspaper outlining the underlying reasons behind the lack of diversity in science and technological industries and affirming what can be done to address this situation.

AND

Write an informal email to a young relative with a keen interest in technology urging him/her to consider a career in this sector despite the challenges.

- 2. You are chairperson of the association representing local sports clubs in your area. However, the sports facilities in your local area have sadly fallen into disrepair.**

Write a formal letter to your local government, firmly outlining the seriousness of the situation and politely convincing them of the need to act to improve the facilities.

AND

Write an informal email to the representatives of the local sports clubs, urging them to write to the council in support of your letter.

- 3. There is a plan to let an area of unused land in your local area return to its former uncultivated state, with the aim of it becoming a nature reserve. There is some support for this, but other people would prefer it to become a more traditional park.**

Develop an online forum with two or more contributors, in which the implications of this proposal are explored, and opposing views about the use of this particular piece of land are expressed, supported by reasons.

4. The value of homework for young children has long been debated among students, parents and teachers.

Develop an online forum with two or more contributors in which the value of homework for young children is affirmed, opposing views are voiced and relevant examples are given.

5. There are plans to create a large hotel complex for international tourists by demolishing the local sports centre and building on the surrounding playing fields.

Develop an online forum with two or more contributors in which opposing viewpoints are presented, the effects of the plan are debated, and an alternative proposal is made.

Remember – you must choose your 2025 ISE IV correspondence task from the above list.

NB the word length range given above for ISE IV correspondence tasks is for the whole task, eg 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.

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2025

Section 2

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

1. It's said that much can be learnt from the cuisine of a country.

Write an article for a food magazine outlining which different aspects of a country its cuisine might reveal. Analyse what could be learnt about your own country from its food and assess the status of traditional food in your culture nowadays.

2. A strong community network is essential in the place where you live to promote well-being amongst residents.

Write an article for a sociology magazine affirming to what extent you agree with this statement. Assess whether a strong community exists in the place where you live and outline any ways in which your community network could be improved.

3. You are concerned about the lack of careers guidance for students in your school/college, but the headteacher does not think this is a priority.

Write a report for the headteacher outlining the current situation. Diplomatically propose that the introduction of a range of measures to rectify this should be prioritised and predict the impact of these measures on the students.

4. Travel writers can offer us an opportunity to learn about a different world.

Write a review of a travel programme, series, or book outlining the main aspects of the places portrayed. Assess how realistic you think this portrayal was and analyse your personal reactions to the programme, series, or book.

5. A well-known finance expert has recently advocated introducing Managing Personal Finance as a subject in the school curriculum.

Write a proposal for your local education authority supporting the idea of teaching personal finance in schools, outlining the areas of personal finance that should be included in such a course and evaluating the possible effects that this might have on schoolchildren in their future lives.

Remember – you must choose your 2025 ISE IV factual writing task from the above list.

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Section 3

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

1. 'The aim of art is to represent not the outward opinion of things, but their inward significance.'

(Aristotle, philosopher, 384-322 BCE)

Write a critical essay citing examples of the work of different artists, analysing to what extent they focus on inward significance and concluding with your ideas on the validity of the quote.

2. 'I am not a teacher, but an awakener.'

(Robert Frost, poet, 1874-1963)

Write a critical essay exploring what you understand about the role of a teacher from this quote. Illustrate this with examples from your own experience and conclude by giving your views on the importance of teachers in a child's development.

3. 'I think it's the books that you read when you're young that live with you forever.'

(J.K. Rowling, author, born 1965)

Write a critical essay exploring the importance of reading at a young age. Give examples of some of the books you read when you were young and evaluate their impact on your life.

4. 'I'm very good at what I do, and I don't turn my hand to something unless I'm very good at it, frankly.'

(David Bowie, pop star, 1947-2016)

Write a critical essay assessing to what extent you agree with the above statement, exploring what the effects would be of only doing what you're good at, and supporting your assertions with relevant examples.

5. 'Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else.'

(Margaret Mead, anthropologist, 1901-1978)

Write a critical essay discussing what you understand from this quote, giving some examples of people who have displayed uniqueness in their lives, and outlining the benefits of such diversity.

Remember – you must choose your 2025 ISE IV critical and analytical writing task from the above list.