

ISE: Integrated Skills in English

ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2027



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ISE IV Portfolio tasks 2027

These are the only acceptable portfolio tasks for candidates taking the ISE IV exam from 1 January 2027 to 31 December 2027.

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 of 350 words.

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

Section 1

Correspondence (word length range: 300–350 words)

- 1. You have become increasingly concerned that young people's relationship with the natural world is diminishing.**

Write a semi-formal letter to your local council outlining your worries about the consequences of young people engaging less with nature and justifying some ideas for projects that would engage young people with the local environment.

AND

Write an informal email to a group of your friends persuading them to write letters to the council in support of your proposals.

- 2. A key road providing access to an area of outstanding natural beauty was made impassable in a storm. The government has been reluctant to fund the repair work, citing cost, construction difficulties and durability of a new road.**

Write a formal letter to your local Member of Parliament asking him/her to appeal against the government's decision, acknowledging the barriers to rebuilding the road and outlining the effects the closure is having.

AND

Write an informal email to a friend who works on a local magazine asking him/her to give the issue some publicity.

- 3. Your local council has just dismantled the play area for children in your local park as the equipment was out of date, and there are no plans to replace it.**

Write a semi-formal letter to the local council expressing your concern at this decision, stating the impact this might have on children's development and making suggestions for the installation of an upgraded play area.

AND

Write an informal open letter to parents in your local area asking for their support in campaigning to replace and upgrade the play area.

- 4. There are plans to develop the site of a disused factory near the centre of your town into a football stadium. There are diverging views on this.**

Write an online forum with three or more contributors, in which the benefits of the project are affirmed, opposing views are presented and how a decision on the issue could be achieved is debated.

- 5. The local council would like to introduce more cycle lanes into your town thereby reducing the amount of space for cars and other vehicles.**

Write an online forum with three or more contributors, in which the benefits of the project are affirmed, opposing views criticising the effect this measure could have on traffic are presented and an alternative proposal for improving the traffic situation in your town is debated.

Remember – you must choose your 2027 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, for example 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 of 350 words.

ISE IV Portfolio tasks

Section 2

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

- 1. Some tribes in remote areas have traditionally avoided close contact with modern society.**

Write an article for a sociology magazine, analysing the reasons why such tribes have remained apart from the rest of the world and affirming the benefits of this. Speculate on how the lives of these tribespeople might change if people from outside their culture were to start playing a role in their society.

- 2. In the past, science fiction books and films speculated about life in the coming technological age. In the modern era, despite technology being part of our everyday lives, interest in science fiction has not diminished.**

Write an article for an entertainment magazine about the science fiction genre today, justifying why it might be surprising that the genre of science fiction is still alive these days and analysing its continuing popularity. Provide some examples to illustrate your points.

- 3. A resort town in your area has recently been experiencing a decrease in visitor numbers and has requested help in reversing this decline.**

Write a report for the local council analysing the factors that might be driving this visitor decline and outlining ways in which tourists could be encouraged to visit the resort. Propose a specific initiative that the council could implement to increase the resort's popularity.

- 4. A large new modern art gallery with unconventional architecture has just opened in your town or city.**

Write a review for a national newspaper, highlighting both people's reactions to the building and outlining their thoughts on the exhibitions within the building. Speculate as to how popular these sorts of visitor attractions will be in the future.

5. Your local council wishes to fund an arts festival featuring a variety of art forms to attract people to your town and is inviting residents to share their ideas about the format and content of this festival.

Write a proposal for the local council presenting your vision for the festival and giving details of which branches of the arts should be included. Evaluate the popularity of such events and present solutions to any problems you foresee.

Remember – you must choose your 2027 ISE IV factual writing task from the above list.

ISE IV Portfolio tasks

Section 3

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

1. **‘Every problem is a gift – without problems we would not grow.’**
(Anthony Robbins, author, coach and speaker, born 1960)

Write an essay demonstrating your understanding of this statement, evaluating to what extent you believe it to be true and considering its value as a principle by which to live your life.

2. **‘The whole world opened to me when I learned to read.’**
(Mary McLeod Bethune, educator and philanthropist, 1875-1955)

Write an essay exploring the implications of how being unable to read might affect one's life experiences and evaluating how technology could help such people these days. Expand on ways in which the world might ‘open’ as a result of learning to read as an adult.

3. **‘I think it's one of the most useless questions an adult can ask a child – What do you want to be when you grow up? As if growing up is finite. As if at some point you become something and that's the end.’**
(Michelle Obama, attorney, author and former First Lady of the US, born 1964)

Write an essay exploring the implications of this statement with regard to identity and one's job. Evaluate to what extent our job defines who we are and speculate on how desirable this association is.

4. **‘There's really no point in asking *what if?* The only question worth asking is: *what's next?*’**
(Sir Elton John, singer, pianist and songwriter, born 1948)

Write an essay evaluating to what extent you agree with this statement. Explore the importance of moving on to new life experiences and assess the benefit of looking back at what might have been different if an alternative course of action had been taken.

5. 'We feel a responsibility not only to stand up for what we know we deserve as athletes, but also for what we know is right – on behalf of our teammates, future teammates, fellow women athletes and women all around the world.'

(Megan Rapinoe, former professional footballer, born 1985)

Write an essay evaluating to what extent sport has helped promote greater respect for women's rights and explore other factors that have affected the move to greater equality. Support your arguments with relevant examples from the sporting world.

Remember – you must choose your 2027 ISE IV critical and analytical writing task from the above list.