



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

**LEAVING CERTIFICATE APPLIED
2010**

MARKING SCHEME

PERSONAL REFLECTION TASK

COMMON LEVEL

PERSONAL REFLECTION TASK (200 Marks)

	Year 1	Year 2
Focus of Reflection	20 marks	30 marks
Ability to Reflect	40 marks	60 marks
Media of Reflection	20 marks	30 marks
200 marks	80 marks	120 marks

Descriptor

9 – 10 Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reflective statements demonstrate a high level of reflective capability (evidenced by critical, creative and analytical thinking) • They are very effectively organised and demonstrate a high level of communication skills • The statements are characterised by a high quality of engagement with the key programme elements.
7 – 8 Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reflective statements demonstrate a good level of reflective capability (experiences are personalised) and are well organised • The reflections are communicated well and are characterised by good quality engagement with the key programme elements.
5 – 6 Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reflective statements demonstrate a reasonable level of reflective capability (experiences are mainly narrative in nature) and are adequately organised • Communication of the reflections is mainly good and there is an acceptable engagement with the key programme elements.
3 – 4 Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reflective statements demonstrate a poor level of reflective capability (experiences are only narrative in nature) and are poorly organised • Communication of the reflections is poor and often lacks focus.
1 – 2 Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reflective statements demonstrate a very low level of reflective capability (are narrative in nature) and are very poorly organised • The reflections are ineffectively communicated and lack focus.
0 Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reflective statements are devoid of reflection, lack organisation, are difficult to understand and fail to focus on what is required.

- LCA Programme Statement & Outline of Student Tasks pages 58-59

Personal Reflection Task

MARKING SCHEME CRITERIA WEIGHTINGS

1. The Total Mark allocation for the **Personal Reflection Task** is **200**

The **Year 1** Personal Reflective Statement is marked out of 80

The **Year 2** Personal Reflective Statement is marked out of 120

2. Marks/Credits Weightings

Credits	Marks
0	0-39
1	40-55
2	56-71
3	72-87
4	88 - 103
5	104- 119
6	120-135
7	136-151
8	152- 167
9	168- 183
10	184-200

3. The Marking Criteria for this Task are as follows:

- Focus of Reflection
- Ability to Reflect
- Media of Reflection

4. The Breakdown of Marks is as follows:

	Year 1	Year 2
Focus of Reflection	20 marks	30 marks
Ability to Reflect	40 marks	60 marks
Media of Reflection	20 marks	30 marks

5. The Weighting of Marks is as follows:

Key	out of 5	out of 10	out of 15
Excellent	5	10	15
Very Good	4	8 - 9	12 - 14
Good	3	6 - 7	9 - 11
Fair	2	4 - 5	6 - 8
Poor	1	2 - 3	3 - 5
Unacceptable	0	0 - 1	0 - 2

1. Focus of Reflection		Year 1	Year 2
		Total	Total
		20	30
1. Focus of Reflection	<p>a) Focus The candidate must identify and define <i>two significant concrete learning experiences</i> in relation to the LCA programme for each statement.</p> <p>In Year 1 s/he can FOCUS on <i>any two</i> aspects of LCA e.g. student’s tasks, attendance, modules, outings, assignments etc.</p> <p>In Year 2 s/he must FOCUS on <i>any two</i> vocational aspects relevant to his/her future career e.g. work experience, career guidance, open days at colleges, vocational specialisms, enterprise etc.</p>	5 marks	10 marks
		+	+
		5 marks	10 marks
	<p>b) Personalisation The candidate must PERSONALISE his/her learning experiences and relate these experiences to him/herself.</p> <p>The following questions are considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How personal is the reflective statement? • How well does the writer come through in the statement? • How much is learned about the candidate from the statement? • Is the candidate telling his/her own story or just writing an objective historical account? <p>A good statement will contain mainly ‘I’ statements as opposed to ‘we’ or ‘the class’ – Statements which are meaningful in that they provide evidence of the candidate’s personalisation of his/her learning experiences.</p>	10 marks	10 marks
		(Base mark 5)	(Base mark 5)

2. Ability to Reflect		Year 1	Year 2
		Total	Total
		40	60
2. Ability to Reflect	<p>a) The candidate describes the initial position or STARTING POINT. Each statement must have an initial position. The initial position launches the reflective process. The candidate must be able to describe, recall, define and review his/her past experiences.</p> <p>The candidate must outline how past experiences have influenced his/her choice of the key learning experiences/foci i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Year 1 key learning experiences that influenced the candidate’s decision to choose LCA. • In Year 2 key learning experiences that influenced the candidate’s decision to choose these two foci. 	10 marks	10 marks

2. Ability to Reflect contd.

<p>b) The candidate <i>describes</i> the experiences and the effect(s) on the initial position. The candidate must DESCRIBE, by means of examples, two specific concrete learning experiences/foci connected to the LCA programme in each statement, which are personally meaningful to him/her.</p> <p>The candidate must break down these experiences by examining, questioning, comparing and criticising. The candidate must write in some depth about these experiences and not just make a series of vague, general, unconnected statements. The candidate should make judgements about the effects of these experiences on him/her.</p> <p>S/he must analyse these experiences by explaining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the experiences affected him/her. • What way did his/her initial thinking change, or not change, as a result of these experiences. <p>The following questions are considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How well has the candidate described and analysed these experiences? • Can the reasoning of the candidate be clearly followed? • What has s/he learned from these experiences? • Is the reader left with more questions than answers? 	<p>5 marks + 5 marks</p>	<p>15 marks + 15 marks</p>
<p>c) The candidate summarises the <i>present position</i>. The candidate must be able to draw conclusions now, about his/her PRESENT POSITION, based on the analysis of his/her key learning experiences.</p> <p>The conclusions must be justified by means of well-supported statements i.e. what has s/he now decided as a result of his/her analysis of the learning experiences and why has s/he now made these decisions? Candidates are required to make connections between their experiences and themselves in order to draw conclusions about their own strengths and weaknesses, choice of career etc.</p> <p>The following questions are considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What conclusions have they drawn about themselves as a result of analysis? • Are the conclusions explained? (I now know... because...) • How well are conclusions explained i.e. is there <i>evidence</i> supporting conclusions drawn about themselves? • What level of self-awareness has been demonstrated? 	<p>10 marks</p>	<p>10 marks</p>
<p>d) The candidate outlines how the experiences have influenced his/her outlook for his/her <i>future position</i>. The candidate is required to integrate what has been learned into his/her FUTURE POSITION i.e. forward planning or future goals. The candidate must be able to make connections i.e. to combine what has been learned from the different experiences into a plan for his/her future. The plan for his/her future should be based on what the candidate has learned about him/herself as a result of reflection on his/her experiences. Candidates should have a specific plan in mind at least in the short-term.</p>	<p>10 marks</p>	<p>10 marks</p>

<p>In Year 1 a short-term plan, based on learning experiences. In Year 2 a specific career oriented plan is required.</p> <p>The following questions are considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How well is the plan linked to the experiences described and the conclusions about him/herself? • How specific is the plan? • How viable is the plan? 		
--	--	--

	Year 1 Total 20	Year 2 Total 30
3. Media of Reflection		
a) Communicative effectiveness/COMMUNICATION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How well does the candidate express his/her ideas? - clarity/fluency /neatness/legibility etc. • Consideration given to e.g. grammar, spelling, capitals, paragraphing etc. 	10 marks (Base mark 5)	15 marks (Base mark 5)
b) Organisation of thoughts - How logical is the task? ORGANISATION i.e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it easy to follow the pattern of thinking? • Does it have a beginning, middle and end? • Is it mixed up or repetitive in places? • How well is the statement presented? 	10 marks (Base mark 5)	15 marks (Base mark 5)

Vocational specialisms –

- Agriculture/Horticulture
- Childcare/Community Care
- Graphics and Construction Studies
- Craft and Design
- Engineering
- Hair and Beauty
- Hotel, Catering and Tourism
- Office Administration and Customer Care
- Technology

The two vocational specialisms outlined below are follow-on courses to the introductory courses shown in brackets and may only commence once these introductory courses have been completed.

- Information and Communication Technology (Introduction to Information and Communication Technology)
- Active Leisure Studies (Leisure and Recreation)