

Reflection Prompts for Your Process Portfolio

1. Mind Map & Idea Development

- What themes or emotions do you want to explore in your artwork?
- How do the words and connections in your mind map relate to your personal experiences?
- Are there any symbols or cultural references that resonate with you?

Example Student Annotation:

"I chose the theme of 'Memory' because I often reflect on how certain objects from my childhood trigger strong emotions. I want to explore how memories fade over time by using blurred textures and soft colors in my compositions."

2. Thumbnail Sketches & Composition Planning

- How do your sketches visually communicate your theme?
- What composition works best for storytelling? Why?
- How might you refine or combine different sketches for a stronger impact?

Example Student Annotation:

"In my first sketch, I focused on an old photograph dissolving into ink splatters, symbolizing a fading memory. However, I like the surreal floating objects in my second sketch, which feel more dreamlike. I might merge these two ideas by adding floating torn-paper elements around the dissolving photo."

3. Experimentation with Materials & Techniques

- Which materials or techniques work best for your concept? Why?
- What challenges did you face when testing these techniques?
- How did your understanding of the theme evolve through experimentation?

Example Student Annotation:

"I experimented with ink washes and found that diluted ink creates a soft, faded effect, perfect for representing forgotten memories. However, I struggled with controlling the flow of ink. I might try layering with dry brush techniques to add more definition."

4. Finalizing the Concept & Self-Reflection

- How has your idea evolved from the initial concept?
- What changes did you make based on your experiments and research?
- What do you want the viewer to feel when they see your final piece?

Example Student Annotation:

"Initially, I wanted to create a realistic portrait, but through experimentation, I realized that abstraction and texture communicate memory more effectively. My final piece will use collage and ink washes to create a dreamlike atmosphere, inviting the viewer to interpret their own memories."

Pro Tip for IB Process Portfolio Excellence

- *Show growth and evolution—don't be afraid to document failed attempts!*
- *Use concise yet thoughtful annotations to explain your artistic decisions.*
- *Incorporate quotes, research, and cultural references to add depth to your reflections.*