

DS2 Marking Criteria

Marking Criterion	FAIL 0-29	MARGINAL FAIL 30-39	SATISFACTORY (PASS) 40-49	GOOD (2:2) 50-59	VERY GOOD (2:1) 60-69	EXCELLENT (1ST) 70-84	EXCEPTIONAL (1ST) 85-100
Engagement with literature skills	No evidence of reading. Uses poor or irrelevant sources. No referencing.	Very limited reading, weak sources, or major referencing problems. Overreliance on class notes.	Uses a few credible, relevant sources. Some referencing errors allowed.	Uses a reasonable range of sources. Mostly relevant. Referencing mostly correct. Shows independent reading.	Uses a wide range of credible sources. Good referencing.	Strong range of high quality sources. Consistent, accurate referencing. Clear evidence of research.	Extensive, well chosen sources with excellent referencing. Research feels integrated and insightful.
Knowledge and Understanding	Very limited understanding of the tool. Explanations are confused or missing. No business context.	Weak understanding. Some description but incorrect or incomplete. Little link to the scenario.	Basic understanding of the tool. Gives simple reasons for using it. Partial connection to the scenario.	Clear explanation of the tool and why it suits the task. Shows awareness of key features. Business connection is acceptable.	Strong understanding of the tool and its features. Links clearly to business needs.	Detailed understanding of the tool. Shows how features support professional outcomes. Strong business reasoning.	Outstanding understanding of the tool and its possible uses. Highly relevant to the business scenario. Insightful connections.
Cognitive and intellectual skills	Work is mainly descriptive. No reasoning, no justification. Simple statements with no evidence.	Very basic reasoning. Weak or unclear explanations. Ideas uncritical. Poor problem-solving.	Some explanation of choices. Simple comparison or reasoning. Basic evidence of thinking.	Clear explanations. Good reasoning for choices and changes made. Shows some problem-solving.	Strong justification using examples. Logical and well supported arguments.	Highly clear reasoning. Thoughtful evaluation of choices. Strong evidence based judgements.	Exceptionally strong analysis. Deep evaluation of decisions, alternatives, improvements, and impact. Very

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							coherent arguments.
Practical Skills	Artefact incomplete or nonfunctional. Major errors. Not appropriate for business.	Artefact barely meets requirements. Poor formatting. Many mistakes. Weak business suitability.	Artefact complete. Basic layout. Simple but usable. Some errors allowed.	Clear and tidy artefact. Suitable for a business setting. Uses some features correctly.	Professional appearance. Uses a range of features. Well-organized.	High-quality, polished business artefact. Strong design choices. Very effective communication.	Outstanding professional standard. Highly effective design, accuracy, and clarity. Could be used directly in a real business.
Transferable Skills for life and professional practice	Writing unclear, disorganised. Hard to follow. Poor communication.	Writing weak and sometimes unclear. Structure confusing. Many errors.	Writing mostly clear. Basic structure. Some small errors allowed. Log is understandable.	Clear writing with logical order. Good paragraphing. Tone mostly professional.	Very clear, well-structured, and professional. Strong organisation.	Fluent writing, confident tone, excellent organisation and clarity.	Exemplary communication. Highly polished, professional, and coherent throughout.