

# Unit 2 Creating Systems to Manage Information



**Level 3 National in  
Information Technology**

**January 2021**

**Activity 8  
Marking Guidance and  
Marked Examples**

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## Activity 8 – Evaluation (20 minutes)

### How examiners approach marking this activity

- Read evaluation and determine **best fit** for band based on understanding of technical concepts and technical vocabulary
- Assign position in **that** mark band based on evaluative content

What should be evaluated:

#### Art form

- the art form is ready for data entry when the form opens
  - the name of the piece of art must be present
  - the selling price of the piece of art cannot be above £2000
  - the selling price of the piece of art cannot be below £100
  - the piece of art must be assigned to a valid artist

#### Sales analysis form

- these details must appear for the artist selected on the sales form:
  - the artist's email
  - the total number of pieces of art
  - the number of pieces of art sold
  - the highest price for a piece of art
  - the lowest price for a piece of art
  - the total sales

Part B evaluation should focus on the quality, performance, and usability of the interface through the eyes of the **user**. Part A was about structure this is about how well the database meets the requirements and what this means for the **user**.

<b>Band 1</b>	Will be very superficial with major omissions
<b>Band 2</b>	Will discuss the form(s) they have built – some aspects sensibly though may not fully explain them or relate them well to their own solution.
<b>Band 3</b>	Will discuss <b>both</b> forms. Will relate to the scenario (they do not need to explicitly mention the scenario, but you should see what they are talking about relates to the scenario). Will be able to see comments relating their solution to the <b>end user</b> and what it will mean for them.

## Example A

**The artists email, number of pieces of art, the number of art sold and the total amount of money made from sales.**

I have successfully shown the name of the pieces of art within my 2<sup>nd</sup> input form. I was successful by using the form wizard to create the link for my form. All information and data would link back to the rest of the form through the Artist Id number, which allowed me to be successful in the testing. Similarly, with the other labels and information for my table. The query wizard allowed me to make sure the data isn't repeated and easy for the user to look for certain information based upon the artists and their art.

Comments	
There is next to nothing markworthy here. There is a comment about successfully showing the name of the pieces of art and linking to an artist ID, which is relevant to the first form, but it is very weak. The form wizard, query wizard is irrelevant. The query wizard may have been relevant if you could understand which form they are talking about and what they mean. This is a very weak 1 mark – could very easily tip to 0 marks.	

Band	Mark
1	1

## Example B

### Evaluation

#### Introduction

The brief said to create two forms for a partially made database for a company called smart arts. We had to create two forms one was to add a new piece of art and the other was to do an analysis of the artists.

#### Art form

When you initially open the form up it will open with a blank slate ready for data input, I have followed what the brief said and it was successful every time I tested it. If you try to submit a form without a piece of art name an error will appear saying that you need to enter a valid art name, I have followed the brief successfully and it works every time I test it. If you try to submit the record with a selling price that exceeds the top range an error appears saying that you need to enter a valid cost, this is what the brief said to do and it works every time I test it. If you try to submit a record that is below the valid range then an error box appears with a valid message. This is what the exam brief asked and works every time. I had some trouble with the assignment of the artist because every time I submitted it an irrelevant error would occur which is bad. So I was unable to complete it. Every time the information was present and you pressed save the record will be saved with a message saying record saved.

#### Sales analysis form

The design brief asked me to add the artists email on the analysis form which I done and works well with it changing to the email address to the person I selected, so it went well. I did display the total number of arts the person has created however it isn't very user friendly due to it appearing next to every record. So this part was alright apart from that small error. I couldn't filter out the available pieces of art which went against the design brief which was bad. I was unable to also allow the highest and lowest sales to be shown due to me not having enough time to complete. So this part also went quite bad. I was able to show the total amount of money made by an artist however it wasn't very user friendly due to it appearing after each record.

If I was to make some improvement to both forms I would make sure that the validation and the macros would work well. I would also make the interface of the forms more user friendly. The final change I would make is to make sure I included all the required fields that the design brief asks for due to me leaving out key information.

The candidate has discussed the performance of the database throughout for both forms and all their comments do relate to the requirements. Even candidates who do not build the second form, can evaluate it. They can say it does not meet the requirements, which means the performance and quality of the database has suffered and they could evaluate what this would mean for the user – what would they have to do to find the information to judge what rating to give and how they think it would affect them/make them feel. A candidate who has only built the first form can achieve full marks in the evaluation if they still go on to evaluate the second.

There are also some comments in terms of the quality of the database.

However, there is very little thought about the user and what this means for them. A very good evaluation will relate performance, quality, and usability to the user. Take the evaluation of the art form as an example.

“When you initially open the form, it will open with a blank slate ready for data input. If you try to submit the record without the art name or input a selling price outside of the acceptable range then an error message will appear telling the user what is wrong and how to correct it. This means the form is quite user friendly. It would mean the user can start inputting the new record without having to waste time clearing it e.g., by going to a new record, and because of the detailed error messages, they will know exactly how to put an error right. Both things will save the user time and stop them becoming confused or irritated. However, the performance, quality and usability of the form has suffered because they cannot select an artist to assign the piece of art to. This means the form is unusable as it stands because it means the user would have to input a record using the tables which would be very irritating and time consuming and could potentially lead to data input errors.”

You can see that the performance of the database is quite brief, and the quality and usability has been merged and is the focus of the evaluation.

Comments
It is a decent attempt at the evaluation though lacks depth in terms of quality and usability in terms of the user, which would have allowed them to move from some justification to fully supported justification.

Band	Mark
2	4

## Example C

### Interface evaluation

The art form that I have created is very user friendly as it makes it easy for a user to use. Once the form is opened, it is already set for data entry showing the user that they are required to enter data inside. Text boxes were added to the form to also lead user's to guide users where exactly they are required to enter information. Another way I have made the form user friendly is by putting in validation rules to prevent the user from making any mistakes or entering invalid data. A validation rule was added to ensure that the user doesn't proceed without entering a name of art. This has been done to remind the user that it is essential and required in order to proceed. A user cannot enter a selling price that is below or above the price range. To ensure that they don't do this a validation rule was entered to alert users to enter a suitable selling price.

A validation allowed the user to enter a valid artist in two different ways. They could have typed it in or they could have selected the artist name through the combo box. This is extremely user friendly as it allows the user to select an artist if they are unsure and it also alerts the user if they have entered an invalid user. This prevents any incorrect data from being saved in the database.

A save button ensured that my form had high performance as it reassures the user that their data has been successfully added. The save button only worked once the user enters suitable data.

On the other hand the sales analysis form didn't perform as well as the art form due to some complications.

#### Comments

This candidate has given a true account of the performance of their database and they have tried to think about the user in this. They also do have some comments about the quality and usability of the form.

However, the evaluation of the second form is just about non-existent. There needs to be a decent evaluation about both forms, even if the candidate approaches it as per the earlier comments given, to achieve mark band 3.

This evaluation has achieved the same mark as example B, though for different reasons.

Band	Mark
2	4

## Example D

### Art Form

When the user clicks on the form a new entry will appear, fresh with no data on. This makes it easy to use as just have to enter data and don't have to click next page. This was done by selecting data entry on form property sheet. Also the AutoNumber says "(New)" as soon as the form opens, showing that this is enter a new form, ready for data entry.

The name is there underneath the Art ID, and has an asterisk showing it has to be inputted making it easy for the user to locate and telling them that they have to input a surname here. It is long enough for all users to add there art name even if it is long.

The selling price is restricted through use of a validation rule "Between 100 and 2000". This ensures that the user cannot input data higher or lower than these values. I have also made the field restricted so user cannot be leave it blank. If the user inputs wrong data a box will appear letting them know that the data entered does not fit this boundary, so the user knows how to correct their mistake and making the form easy to use.

To assign to a valid artist the user just has to select from the combo box list, this makes it easy to do and so users cannot be frustrated if their is spelling mistakes etc. as they just have to select from a list and so it is fast and easy to do.

A record saves if all data is correct through use of a macro. If the user leaves any of the required fields blank a message will pop up saying please enter the field that you have left blank. Otherwise if all data is correct a message will appear for the user saying it has saved.

### Sales Analysis form

First a user selects an artist from the combo box which has a list of all artist IDs with the surnames next to it making it easy to select required artist and prevents user for getting frustrated from human error. Then all the details will appear in the sub form below, all in a straight line making it easy for the user to read. This information appears instantly which is exactly what the user wants and there is no performance lag between clicking an ID and the information appearing. There is some unnecessary information like the record number due to using a sub form but it shouldn't affect user that much and all the information required is shown.

#### Comments

This candidate has had a very good attempt at evaluating their system. The user is generally the basis of their evaluative comments about quality and usability. It is not perfect but, in the 20 minutes available, it is quite a thorough evaluation.

Band	Mark
3	6