

A/618/7011 - Communication and Cultural Skills for Higher Education Assessment

QUESTION 1.

Participating in Discussions and Delivering Presentations (500 words)

Assessment Focus:

Communicate fluently, accurately and effectively, speaking on a range of topics, with appropriate control of grammar, vocabulary and register.

Question:

Discuss a familiar academic or social topic of your choice and reflect on how effectively you can engage in discussions with peers. Additionally, prepare a detailed outline for a presentation you would deliver on this topic, highlighting the key points you would cover.

Guidance:

- In your response, ensure you participate in a discussion of a familiar issue, demonstrating relevant and meaningful contributions appropriate to the conversation (Assessment Criteria 1.1).
- You should prepare a clear presentation outline, detailing how you would deliver it, including key points and how you would engage the audience on a social or academic topic of interest (Assessment Criteria 1.2).
- Pay attention to grammar, vocabulary, and register to ensure that your communication is clear and appropriate for both discussion and presentation formats.

QUESTION 2

Understanding Your Learning Style (500 words)

Assessment Focus:

Understand different learning styles.

Question:

Reflect on your personal learning style. Identify your strengths and weaknesses as a learner, and explain how your personality profile affects your ability to learn and work in group settings.

Guidance:

- Begin by identifying your preferred learning style (visual, auditory, kinesthetic, or a combination) and provide specific examples of how you learn best (Assessment Criteria 2.1).
- Discuss your study strengths and weaknesses, providing examples of when these have impacted your academic progress (Assessment Criteria 2.2).
- Explore how your personality profile impacts your learning style and how it affects your ability to collaborate and learn as part of a group (Assessment Criteria 2.3).

QUESTION 3

Exploring Culture and Subculture (500 words)

Assessment Focus:

Understand the concept of culture, cultural values and how different cultures can be defined.

Question:

Explain the terms 'culture' and 'subculture' and reflect on how cultural expectations can differ when studying abroad. Provide an analysis of how Irish culture and history have shaped modern Irish society.

Guidance:

- Start by defining and explaining the concepts of 'culture' and 'subculture,' illustrating your understanding with examples (Assessment Criteria 3.1).
- Reflect on the different cultural expectations you may encounter when studying abroad, particularly focusing on how these can affect academic and social life (Assessment Criteria 3.2).
- Provide an in-depth reflection on how Irish society, culture, and history have influenced its modern context, drawing on specific historical and cultural examples (Assessment Criteria 3.3).

QUESTION 4

Understanding Academic Cultures and Conventions (500 words)

Assessment Focus:

Understand academic culture and conventions.

Question:

Compare the academic culture of two different countries, including the UK. Discuss the differences in how academic conventions such as communication with staff and stress management strategies are approached.

Guidance:

- Compare and contrast the academic culture of two different countries, including Ireland, with examples of key differences in academic practices, expectations, and student interactions (Assessment Criteria 4.1).
- Discuss the specific characteristics of the Irish third-level education system, including how it differs from other systems (Assessment Criteria 4.2).
- Reflect on the appropriate language and tone to use when communicating with university staff via email, providing examples of both effective and ineffective communication (Assessment Criteria 4.3).
- Conclude with strategies for dealing with stress in academic settings, noting how these might differ based on cultural or institutional contexts (Assessment Criteria 4.4).