

ACTE: Individual/Group Animation Rubric

DIRECTIONS

- Ask the student/group for the **printed portfolio**. Digital or electronic portfolios are not accepted. Students have no more than 5 minutes for project setup. While they set up, score the printed portfolio using the checklist below.
- Confirm that the animation and its production assets are student-created. **AI-generated animation is prohibited.** This includes generative-AI-created frames, characters, backgrounds, motion, effects, narration, voices, or other visual/audio assets used in the animation. If AI-generated content is suspected or disclosed, pause scoring and refer the entry to ACTE staff.
- The student/group has a maximum of 10 minutes to present the project. Judge the animation and presentation using the criteria on page 2. The student may choose which portion of a longer project to show.
- After the presentation, judges may ask questions for no more than 5 minutes. Judges are not limited to the suggested topics in the rubric.
- Enter a score for every criterion. Add the Portfolio Score and Project & Oral Presentation Score for the final score, then initial page 2.

PRINTED PORTFOLIO CHECKLIST			Points
Online Orientation Certificate	0 The Online Orientation Certificate is missing.	10 The Online Orientation Certificate is printed and placed as page 1 of the portfolio.	
Printed Portfolio	0 No printed portfolio is submitted, or only a digital/electronic portfolio is provided.	10 A complete printed portfolio is submitted at judging. Digital portfolios are not accepted.	
Required Portfolio Sections	0 Required printed portfolio sections are not provided.	10 Printed portfolio includes these 9 sections: - Online Orientation Certificate (first page) - Project identification page: student name(s), school, category, level, and region - Table of contents - Project narrative: purpose, learning, and benefit - Software and hardware used - Storyboard, script, character/background designs, shot list, or other planning evidence - Selected still frames/screenshots and production evidence showing development - Works cited/bibliography and asset/source credits - Signed statement that the animation and included production assets are student-created and contain no AI-generated animation or assets	
Judges Printed Portfolio Checklist Score			/30

This section is valued at 30 points total.

ANIMATION PROJECT & ORAL PRESENTATION RUBRIC

Select the score range that best matches the demonstrated level. Enter one numeric score from 0-10 for each criterion.

PROJECT					Points
Story, Concept & Sequence					
0 No identifiable concept, purpose, or sequence.	1-3 Concept is unclear; events feel disconnected and planning is limited.	4-6 A basic story or purpose is evident, but pacing or sequence is uneven.	7-9 Clear, engaging concept with logical sequencing and effective pacing.	10 Compelling, original concept; every scene supports a polished, purposeful narrative.	
PROJECT					Points
Visual Design & Consistency					
0 No intentional visual design is evident.	1-3 Characters, backgrounds, color, scale, or style are inconsistent or difficult to interpret.	4-6 Design supports the project but includes noticeable inconsistencies or unfinished elements.	7-9 Cohesive characters, environments, composition, color, and visual style.	10 Exceptional design system with professional consistency, clarity, and visual appeal.	
PROJECT					Points
Animation Principles, Timing & Motion					
0 No animation or purposeful movement is shown.	1-3 Movement is frequently choppy, confusing, or mechanically timed.	4-6 Motion communicates the action but timing, spacing, transitions, or continuity are uneven.	7-9 Smooth, believable motion with effective timing, spacing, transitions, and continuity.	10 Highly refined movement demonstrates expert control of animation principles and enhances meaning.	
PROJECT					Points
Technical Execution & Final Output					
0 Project does not play or cannot be evaluated.	1-3 Major playback, rendering, editing, resolution, framing, or file-format problems interfere with viewing.	4-6 Project plays, but several technical issues or unfinished elements are noticeable.	7-9 Reliable playback and strong editing/rendering with only minor technical issues.	10 Publication-ready output: polished edit, clean render, correct format, and seamless playback.	
PROJECT					Points
Originality, Purpose & Student Authorship					
0 Purpose or student authorship cannot be established.	1-3 Work shows limited original decision-making; sources or production process are unclear.	4-6 Purpose and student contribution are evident, though creative choices or documentation are basic.	7-9 Original, purposeful work with clear student ownership and well-supported production evidence.	10 Distinctive creative vision, meaningful purpose, and convincing evidence of independent student authorship.	
PRESENTATION					Points
Explanation of Process & Professional Delivery					
0 Does not explain the project or production process.	1-3 Explanation is difficult to follow; limited eye contact, volume, or preparation.	4-6 Explains major steps and tools, but detail, organization, or delivery is inconsistent.	7-9 Clearly explains planning, software, techniques, revisions, and creative choices with professional delivery.	10 Confident, concise, and engaging explanation demonstrates command of the full animation workflow.	
QUESTIONS					Points
Knowledge, Problem-Solving & Responses					
0 Does not answer judges' questions.	1-3 Answers are incomplete or show little understanding of tools and decisions.	4-6 Answers most questions and describes basic challenges or revisions.	7-9 Provides specific, accurate responses about techniques, troubleshooting, sources, and creative decisions.	10 Insightful responses demonstrate deep technical understanding, reflection, and equal contribution by group members.	
AI-GENERATED ANIMATION PROHIBITED					
Entries may not contain generative-AI-created animation or production assets, including frames, characters, backgrounds, motion, effects, narration, voices, or other visual/audio content used in the animation. Judges should not independently penalize suspected use; pause scoring and refer the entry to ACTE staff for review.					
Judges Printed Portfolio Checklist Score					/30
Animation Project & Oral Presentation Score					/70
Total Project Score					/100
Ranking (ACTE Staff Only)					

Judges Initials: _____