## WSET Level 2 Systematic Approach to Tasting Beer®

Appearance	
Clarity	clear – slightly hazy – hazy/cloudy – opaque
Colour	straw – gold – amber – copper – brown – black – other
Foam	none – small – medium – large
Other observations	e.g. head retention (foam stand), head (foam) colour, sediment
Nose	
Intensity	light – medium – pronounced
Aroma characteristics	e.g. aromas from malt and grain, hops, yeast and bacteria, other aromas, possible off-flavours/off-aromas
Palate	
Carbonation	none – low – medium – high
Body	light – medium – full
Alcohol	low – medium – high – very high
Bitterness	none – Iow – medium – high
Sweetness	dry – off-dry – medium – sweet
Aroma intensity	light – medium – pronounced
Aroma characteristics	e.g. aroma from malt and grain, hops, yeast and bacteria, other aromas, possible off-flavours/off-aromas
Finish	short – medium – long
Other observations	e.g. acidity, texture, astringency, warming sensation, lingering bitterness
Conclusions	
Quality	faulty – poor – acceptable – good – very good – outstanding



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## WSET Level 2 Beer-Lexicon

Supporting the WSET Level 2 Systematic Approach to Tasting Beer®

Bread     bread dough, water cracker, bread crumb, bread crust, digestive biscuit/graham cracker, toasted bread, burnt bread       Sweet/confectionery     honey, caramel, candy floss (cotton candy), toffee, black treacle (molasses)       Dried fruit     raisin, prune, date, dried fig       Nut/bean     toasted nut, chocolate, coffee, cocoa       Smoke     woodsmoke, smoked bacons, smoked cheese       Aromas from hops     Tosse, geranium, lavender, jasmine, elderflower, blossom, chamomile       Berry     strawberry, raspberry, redcurrant, blackcurrant, gooseberry, blueberry       Pome fruit     apple, pear       Citrus fruit     grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamot       Stone fruit     grape, mano, melon, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, guava, coconut       Herbal     mint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green tea       Other     pine, resin, spice, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercom       Aromas from yeast and bacteria     apple, pear, lemon, range, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, banona, pineapple, hubarb, fig. dried fruit       Spice     clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercom, aniseed       Aromas from yeast and bacteria     ranyber, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, fig. dried fruit       Spice     clove, nutmeg, w	Describing aroma	
indexcracker, toasted bread, burnt breadSweet/confectioneryhoney, caramel, candy floss (cotton candy), toffee, black treacle (molasses)Dried fruitraisin, prune, date, dried figNut/beantoasted nut, hocolate, coffee, cocoaSmokewoodsmoke, smoked bacon, smoked cheeseAromas from hopsrose, geranium, lavender, jasmine, elderflower, blossom, chamomileBerystawbery, raspbery, redcurrant, blackcurrant, goosebery, blueberyPome fruitapple, pearCitrus fruitgrapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamotStone fruitgrapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamotTropical fruitychee, mango, melon, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, guava, coconutHerbacousgrass, rocket (arugula), blackcurrant leaf, lemongrass, hayHerbalmint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green teaOtherouter, burne, spite, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercom, banana, pineapple, rhubarb, fig, dried fruitSpiceclove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseedFuruit and other additionskoraps, bubblegum, fruit candy, anil varnish, liquoriceOthervanilla, coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffeeFuit and other additionsgreen apple, raw pungkin, emulsion palntPoselerffHaveurs/off-aromasgreen apple, raw pungkin, emulsion palntChare atomsgreen apple, raw pungkin, emulsion palntChare atomsgreen apple, raw pungkin, emulsion palntBarmadinder furt, flore, caramel, Pont, tobaccoChare atomsgreen apple, raw pungkin, emulsion pa	Aromas from malt and grain	
Dried fruit     raisin, prune, date, dried fig       Nut/bean     toasted nut, chocolate, coffee, cocoa       Smoke     woodsmoke, smoked bacon, smokad cheese       Aromas from hops     Filteral       Floral     rose, geranium, lavender, jasmine, elderflower, blossom, chamomile       Berry     strawberry, raspberry, redcurrant, blackcurrant, gooseberry, blueberry       Pome fruit     apple, pear       Citrus fruit     grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamot       Stone fruit     peach, apricot, nectarine, cherry, plum       Tropical fruit     lychee, mango, melon, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, guava, coconut       Herbaceous     grass, rocket (arugula), blackcurrant leaf, lemongrass, hay       Herbal     mint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green tea       Other     pine, resin, spice, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercorn, aniseed       Fruit     apple, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, banana, pineapple, nhubarb, fig, dried fruit       Spice     clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseed       Fruit     apyle, pear, lemon, drange, clamp out, damp wool       Other     vinegar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nall varnish, fliquorice       Other     vinegar, bubble	Bread	
Nut/beantoasted nut, chocolate, coffee, cocoaSmokewoodsmoke, smoked bacon, smoked cheeseAromas from hopsFloralrose, geranium, lavender, jasmine, elderflower, blossom, chamomileBerrystrawberry, raspberry, redcurrant, blackcurrant, gooseberry, blueberryPome fruitapple, pearCitrus fruitgrapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamotStone fruitpeach, apricot, nectarine, cherry, plumTropical fruitlychee, mango, melon, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, guava, coconutHerbaceousgrass, rocket (arugula), blackcurrant leaf, lemongrass, hayHerbalmint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green teaOtherpine, resin, spice, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercornAromas from yeast and bacteriaapple, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, fineapple, hubarb, fig, dried fruitSpiceclove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseedCothervanigar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nail varnish, liquoriceOthervanilla, coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffeeFruit and other additionsraspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, otherAgeingdried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobaccoPossible off-flavours/off-aromasgreen apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paintDiacetylbutter, buttered popcornDiacetylbutter, buttered popcordDiacetylpapery, stale, wet cardboardDiacetylpapery, stale, wet cardboardDiacetyl suffie	Sweet/confectionery	honey, caramel, candy floss (cotton candy), toffee, black treacle (molasses)
Smoke     woodsmoke, smoked bacon, smoked cheese       Aromas from hops     Floral     rose, geranium, lavender, jasmine, elderflower, blossom, chamomile       Berry     strawberry, raspberry, redcurrant, blackcurrant, gooseberry, blueberry       Pome fruit     apple, pear       Citrus fruit     grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamot       Stone fruit     peach, apricot, nectarine, cherry, plum       Tropical fruit     lychee, mango, melon, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, guava, coconut       Herbaceous     grass, rocket (arugula), blackcurrant leaf, lemongrass, hay       Herbal     mint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green tea       Other     apple, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, benana, pineapple, rhubarb, fig, dried fruit       Spice     clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseed       Farmyard     hay, horse blanket, leather, earth, damp wool       Other aromas     raspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, other       Ageing     dried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobacco       Possible off-flavours/off-aromas     green apple, rew pumpkin, emulsion paint       Diacetyl     butter, buttered popcorn       Diacetyl     butter, buttered	Dried fruit	raisin, prune, date, dried fig
Aromas from hops       Floral     rose, geranium, lavender, jasmine, elderflower, blossom, chamomile       Berry     strawberry, raspberry, redcurrant, blackcurrant, gooseberry, blueberry       Pome fruit     apple, pear       Citrus fruit     grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamot       Stone fruit     peach, apricot, nectarine, cherry, plum       Tropical fruit     lychee, mango, melon, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, guava, coconut       Herbaceous     grass, rocket (arugula), blackcurrant leaf, lemongrass, hay       Herbal     mint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green tea       Other     pine, resin, spice, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercorn       Aromas from yeast and bacteria     pine, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, branan, pineapple, rhubarb, fig, dried fruit       Spice     clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseed       Farmyard     hay, horse blanket, leather, earth, damp wool       Other     vanilla, coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffee       Fruit and other additions     raspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, corlander seed, other       Ageing     dried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobacco       Posscible off-flavours/off-aromas     cocok	Nut/bean	toasted nut, chocolate, coffee, cocoa
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Berry     strawberry, raspberry, redcurrant, blackcurrant, gooseberry, blueberry       Pome fruit     apple, pear       Citrus fruit     grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, bergamot       Stone fruit     peach, apricot, nectarine, cherry, plum       Tropical fruit     lychee, mango, melon, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, guava, coconut       Herbaceous     grass, rocket (arugula), blackcurrant leaf, lemongrass, hay       Herbal     mint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green tea       Other     pine, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, banana, pineapple, rhubarb, fig, dried fruit       Spice     clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseed       Other     vinegar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nail varnish, liquorice       Other     vinegar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nail varnish, liquorice       Other     vanilla, coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffee       Fruit and other additions     raspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, other       Acetaldehyde     green apple, raw pumpklin, emulsion paint       Diacetyl     butter, buttered popcorn       Dimethyl sulfide (DMS)     cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juice       Staling     papery, stale, wet cardboard <td>Aromas from hops</td> <td></td>	Aromas from hops	
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Herbaceous   grass, rocket (arugula), black currant leaf, lemongrass, hay     Herbal   mint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green tea     Other   pine, resin, spice, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercom     Aromas from yeast and bacteria   paple, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, banana, pineapple, rhubarb, fig, dried fruit     Spice   clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseed     Farmyard   hay, horse blanket, leather, earth, damp wool     Other   vinegar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nail varnish, liquorice     Other aromas   raspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, other     Ageing   dried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobacco     Possible off-flavours/off-aromas   green apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paint     Diacetyl   butter, buttered popcorn     Diacetyl   butter, buttered popcorn     Diacetyl   papery, stale, wet cardboard     Light struck   skunk, cat urine, scorched hair     Light struck   kunk, cat urine, scorched hair	Stone fruit	peach, apricot, nectarine, cherry, plum
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Other     pine, resin, spice, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercorn       Aromas from yeast and bacteria     pine, resin, spice, earth, forest floor, onion, garlic, cedar, peppercorn       Fruit     apple, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, banana, pineapple, rhubarb, fig, dried fruit       Spice     clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseed       Farmyard     hay, horse blanket, leather, earth, damp wool       Other     vinegar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nail varnish, liquorice       Other aromas     coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffee       Fruit and other additions     raspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, other       Ageing     dried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobacco       Possible off-flavours/off-aromas     green apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paint       Diacetyl     butter, buttered popcorn       Dimethyl sulfide (DMS)     cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juice       Staling     papery, stale, wet cardboard       Light struck     skunk, cat urine, scorched hair	Herbaceous	grass, rocket (arugula), blackcurrant leaf, lemongrass, hay
Aromas from yeast and bacteriaFruitapple, pear, lemon, orange, grapefruit, strawberry, grape, apricot, cherry, peach, banana, pineapple, rhubarb, fig, dried fruitSpiceclove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseedFarmyardhay, horse blanket, leather, earth, damp woolOthervinegar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nail varnish, liquoriceOther aromasvanilla, coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffeeFruit and other additionsraspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, otherAgeingdried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobaccoPossible off-flavours/off-aromasgreen apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paintDiacetylbutter, buttered popcornDimethyl sulfide (DMS)cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juiceStalingpapery, stale, wet cardboardLight struckskunk, cat urine, scorched hairclove, medicinal, smokeclove, medicinal, smoke	Herbal	mint, dill, sage, thyme, fennel, basil, black tea, green tea
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Other   vinegar, bubblegum, fruit candy, nail varnish, liquorice     Other aromas   vanilla, coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffee     Fruit and other additions   raspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, other     Ageing   dried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobacco     Possible off-flavours/off-aromas   green apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paint     Diacetyl   butter, buttered popcorn     Dimethyl sulfide (DMS)   cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juice     Staling   papery, stale, wet cardboard     Light struck   skunk, cat urine, scorched hair     Phenolic off-flavours   clove, medicinal, smoke	Spice	clove, nutmeg, white peppercorn, black peppercorn, aniseed
Other aromas   Vanilla, coconut, almond, smoke, cinnamon, toffee     Fruit and other additions   raspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, other     Ageing   dried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobacco     Possible off-flavours/off-aromas   green apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paint     Acetaldehyde   green apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paint     Diacetyl   butter, buttered popcorn     Staling   papery, stale, wet cardboard     Light struck   skunk, cat urine, scorched hair     Phenolic off-flavours   clove, medicinal, smoke	Farmyard	hay, horse blanket, leather, earth, damp wool
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Fruit and other additionsraspberry, cherry, blueberry, blackberry, grape, apricot, peach, plum, marzipan, rhubarb, coriander seed, otherAgeingdried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobaccoPossible off-flavours/off-aromasgreen apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paintAcetaldehydegreen apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paintDiacetylbutter, buttered popcornDimethyl sulfide (DMS)cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juiceStalingpapery, stale, wet cardboardLight struckskunk, cat urine, scorched hairPhenolic off-flavoursclove, medicinal, smoke	Other aromas	
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Possible off-flavours/off-aromasAcetaldehydegreen apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paintDiacetylbutter, buttered popcornDimethyl sulfide (DMS)cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juiceStalingpapery, stale, wet cardboardLight struckskunk, cat urine, scorched hairPhenolic off-flavoursclove, medicinal, smoke	Fruit and other additions	
Acetaldehydegreen apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paintDiacetylbutter, buttered popcornDimethyl sulfide (DMS)cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juiceStalingpapery, stale, wet cardboardLight struckskunk, cat urine, scorched hairPhenolic off-flavoursclove, medicinal, smoke	Ageing	dried fruit, toffee, caramel, Port, tobacco
Diacetyl   butter, buttered popcorn     Dimethyl sulfide (DMS)   cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juice     Staling   papery, stale, wet cardboard     Light struck   skunk, cat urine, scorched hair     Phenolic off-flavours   clove, medicinal, smoke	Possible off-flavours/off-aromas	
Dimethyl sulfide (DMS)   cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juice     Staling   papery, stale, wet cardboard     Light struck   skunk, cat urine, scorched hair     Phenolic off-flavours   clove, medicinal, smoke	Acetaldehyde	green apple, raw pumpkin, emulsion paint
Staling papery, stale, wet cardboard   Light struck skunk, cat urine, scorched hair   Phenolic off-flavours clove, medicinal, smoke	Diacetyl	butter, buttered popcorn
Light struck   skunk, cat urine, scorched hair     Phenolic off-flavours   clove, medicinal, smoke	Dimethyl sulfide (DMS)	cooked sweetcorn, cooked cabbage, tomato juice
Phenolic off-flavours clove, medicinal, smoke	Staling	papery, stale, wet cardboard
	Light struck	skunk, cat urine, scorched hair
Bacterial contamination rancid butter, vinegar, cooked cabbage	Phenolic off-flavours	clove, medicinal, smoke
	Bacterial contamination	rancid butter, vinegar, cooked cabbage



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