



General Certificate of Education

Applied Art and Design (8511, 8513, 8516, 8519)

AD04 Historical and contemporary references

Report on the Examination

2007 examination - June series

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AD04 – Historical and contemporary references

The main focus of this unit is for candidates to learn about both historical and contemporary work and, through research and experimentation, how the work of others might influence their own. The work seen during moderation visits varied from a series of A4 notes and related practical work to in-depth illustrated sketchbooks, timelines and reflective work related to them. An interesting approach was seen where candidates produced interactive websites that were both fun to use and extremely informative. The websites contained the work of others, personal opinions and images of the candidates' work, set alongside the influential piece of work from the selected artist, craftsperson or designer. This was all linked to a variety of interesting web pages.

Some candidates showed a sound knowledge of art, craft and design in vocational contexts, which enabled them to analyse and evaluate a variety of sources. Less successful candidates covered AO1 'Applying knowledge and understanding of others' practice' in a rather limited way.

The Assessment Criteria require contemporary and historical applications in art, craft and design in vocational contexts and it was clear that in some cases the research had concentrated on art sources. In order to achieve the higher mark bands, candidates need to, 'compare and contrast the work of others and evaluate the key influences'. Such comparisons were not always evident although in some cases they were better than those seen last year.

In some centres units AD01, AD02 and AD04 were combined with the 2D and 3D practical work for AD01 and AD02 reflecting an element of the research requirement of AD04. This approach is acceptable and provides centres with the potential to combine together relevant aspects of different units. However, it is important to make sure that all bullet points in the strap lines of the Assessment Criteria for each unit are covered and that it is clear how they fit together both for assessment purposes and for the moderation visit.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results statistics](#) page of the AQA website.