



GCE Applied Art and Design

Sample Assignments

Specification Code: 8511, 8513, 8516, 8519

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Introduction

These assignments were written by teachers as part of a series of AQA Teacher Support meetings in 2006. The task was to write an assignment that covered the Assessment Objectives for Unit 4: (*Historical and Contemporary References*); had vocational relevance; related to art, craft or design practitioners; developed work to the design proposal stage and had possible 2D and 3D outcomes.

Although the assignments were written for Unit 4, many could also support other units, for example, Unit 1: *Investigation of 2D visual language*, Unit 2: *Investigation of 3D visual language* and Unit 6: *Option Unit*. There may also be potential in combining Units 1, 2 and 4.

Assignment 1

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Mural Project

Scenario

A play area in a primary school for a group of 5-9 year olds.

Two walled areas in the play area are available for two murals. Each mural is 3 m × 2 m. The aim of the mural is to encourage sports activities and healthy living.

Brief

To produce original design proposals for **two** murals in the primary school, one painted and the other a 3D relief, **or** a 3D soft sculpture. Both murals are to be influenced by the forthcoming Olympics. Students should research the history of the Olympics as well as artists/photographers who have worked with movement, eg Boccioni, Balla, Severini, and Muybridge.

2D mural: limitation of colour – you must use three colours and black and white.

3D mural: you must use three different materials to create a multi-surface relief.

The following points must be considered:

- work must be weatherproof
- 3 m × 2 m area available for each mural
- health and safety issues
- look at European and non-European mural artists and how they have communicated ideas, eg political, decorative, historical and contemporary
- possibly work with a community artist

- produce a portfolio of your ideas, to include drawings, sketches and 3D practice pieces
- present your proposals to scale in an appropriate manner, eg technical drawing or ICT presentation
- in your final design proposals you need to have covered multi-cultural influences
- express visual language and the formal elements throughout your work, with annotation
- include an evaluation of your final design proposal.

Assignment 2

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Charity event for a dogs' home

Scenario:

A dogs' home is to open a new visitor centre. The purpose of the centre is to raise awareness of a new adoption scheme and to raise funds for the running of the dogs' home. As part of the fundraising there is to be an auction of artefacts at a charity dinner in the new centre. The dinner also needs to be advertised with a poster campaign.

The managers of the dogs' home are commissioning artists and 3D specialists to create work based on dogs for the auction. As part of the advertising for the event they require designs for a ticket, poster and packaging for an information pack which will be given to guests at the event.

Brief:

Students must select a 2D **and** a 3D route from the briefs below.

- 1 Research the work of Lucien Freud, Dürer and Pablo Picasso – looking specifically at work based on animals. Produce a 2D piece that reflects the style and influence of one or more practitioners. Outcomes may take the form of a painting, print, or series of prints, or a textile piece.

Constraints:

- size no larger than A2, no smaller than A3
- art work should be positive and cheerful, reflecting the fun and joy element of having a pet. The client wants to reflect the positive aspects of the organisation.

2 Research the work of Rodin, Michael Flynn, Sophie Ryder and Mikaela Barlett. Produce a 3D dog that reflects the style of one of the practitioners researched.

Constraints:

- colour scheme limited to **three** colours
- media must link to style and working practice of artist
- 3D outcome must explore surface texture.

3 Graphic Brief

(a) Research the work of two graphic practitioners from Escher, HMV (His Masters Voice logo), Beatrix Potter, Javier Mairscal (Olympic logo 'Cobi'). You must select at least one contemporary practitioner.

(b) Produce a design for a poster/ticket advertising a charity dinner with the auction. Information to be included:

- name of the dogs' home
- organisation logo
- date, time, venue
- cost of ticket
- dress code – black tie.

Constraints:

- poster size A3
- ticket size A6
- limited colour scheme (three colours – plus black and white)
- must feature a dog.

Assignment 3

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Steve Green: Shirt Makers

Scenario:

- Steve Green's 50th Anniversary
- the company is collaborating with the Frieze Art Fair in London
- the manager of Steve Green's main London store would like artists to design and make a shirt that will celebrate the work of different artists
- the successful artists will use the window display to showcase their work.

Brief:

3D Project:

- produce **one** shirt design
- the shirts will all be displayed on tailors' dummies
- each artist will be given the same amount of space to display their work
- the work should not extend more than 1 m or be higher than 3 m
- no work is to cover the floor
- the work could be sculptural or textile based.

2D Project:

- design a carrier bag to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Steve Green
- the bag should draw on elements of the history of shirt making

- a logo incorporating the name 'Steve Green' must be a focal feature
- the colours should link with the current trends in fashion for this season
- the bag must be practical.

Assignment 4

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Country Park – Education Building

Scenario:

A new education building is being developed at a Country Park. The purpose of this building is to provide schools and colleges with a place to work whilst visiting the park. It will also include an eating area for the general public. The centre managers are looking for proposals for art and design work that would complement its surroundings. The centre is being designed by a contemporary 3D designer.

Brief:

The client would like the art and design work to be inspired by the natural world. Reference must be made to at least **one** historical and **one** contemporary artist, designer or craftsman. You are required to produce at least **one** design proposal for the **two** projects listed below.

3D Project:

- internal lighting
- outdoor sculpture piece
- table decoration
- furniture.

Constraints:

- materials used must be in their natural state, ie no added colour.

2D Project:

- wall hangings
- logo
- art pieces
- pattern designs
- advertising.

Constraints:

- maximum of a **three** colour palette.

Assignment 5

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Nouveau Bar

Scenario:

Nouveau Bar is opening in the city centre. The owner is offering a series of art commissions for the interior of the bar. The design of this new building is influenced by the Art Nouveau style. The client (the owner) is looking for design proposals which have a unique twist on the Art Nouveau style.

Brief:

You are commissioned to design the following 2D and 3D pieces:

2D Brief:

A collograph print to be framed for the lounge bar.

Constraints:

- maximum size A3
- minimum size A5
- two colours only
- the print is also to be used on the bar's menus.

3D Brief:

A decorative ceramic tile to be used on the walls in the lounge bar.

Constraints:

- maximum size 15 cm × 15 cm
- the tile must have surface relief

- the tile must have the potential to repeat.

You may choose the same design for the 2D and 3D piece **or** produce a separate proposal for each.

Assignment 6

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Design a mural panel

Scenario:

A new sixth form block with a foyer has been built at a local school with double height space. An opportunity has been identified for commemorative artwork to mark the opening of the new block. The locality has a diverse community and a range of history, commerce and industry. You will work as a group with each member being responsible for a section of the work for the mural panel.

Brief:

- where possible, interview the head of sixth form to learn what is required, eg theme, location etc
- research visual aspects of the local community, environment and relevant artefacts in a variety of 2D and 3D media
- as a group, decide on an individual theme reflecting aspects of the diversity of the area, eg culture, industry, urban landscape, rural landscape
- look at the work of artists who work on a large scale, eg Walter Keeler, Anthony Gormley, Louise Nevelson, Antoni Gaudi
- explore a variety of techniques used by artists who work on a large scale
- produce a series of designs for your individual panel, exploring a variety of media
- produce notes which analyse your work as it progresses
- produce a series of designs and a maquette for a 3D piece to complement your panel designs
- produce a 2D design sheet to exhibition standards and/or related artwork to be included in an exhibition for the unveiling ceremony.

Assignment 7

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: A Public Air Piece that reflects the local community/area

Scenario:

Funding has been allocated for a mural and sculpture to represent a positive image for the local community and to express looking forward to the future, eg *City of Culture 2008* or *The Creative County*. Both mural and sculpture are to be displayed in the city's central shopping area. Consideration must be given to materials, scale and site.

From a range of initial ideas **one** will be selected by the local council for final realisation.

Brief:

- initially identify and document possible sites for your work, using suitable means, eg photography/sketches
- assess public enthusiasm for and endorsement of the project using a simple questionnaire
- research suitable artists/craftspersons who have been involved in similar projects locally, nationally and internationally
- a focused visit to a sculpture park or museum to see primary references, or a community artist to see work in situ is recommended
- present a series of ideas related to features of the local area and relevant to the theme
- develop a range of ideas using a variety of 2D and 3D media, using annotated sketches and maquettes
- select **one** 2D and **one** 3D idea to develop further on a small scale, eg model or maquette, in appropriate materials. This could be photographed and cut and pasted into a photograph of the location.

Assignment 8

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Retro Designs

Scenario:

Due to the revival of interest in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s design work, the client has opened a shop called 'Retro Designs'. The client requires the designer to produce a logo, in no more than **three** colours, for the shop front and note paper which reflects these periods. The client also wishes to sell original craftwork along side mass-produced objects. The designer must produce ideas for both 2D **and** 3D work.

Choose **one** of the following: postcards, posters, or an original painting or print.

Brief:

You may wish to design from **one** of the following ideas:

- textiles or small fashion objects – T-shirts, hats, handbags and jewellery
- ceramic gifts such as vases, trinket boxes etc
- wind chimes and mobiles
- you should research the artwork/craftwork of the period and identify examples that inspire you
- research the work of contemporary graphic designers, by collecting examples of logos and symbols that create corporate identity, evaluating and taking inspiration from their work
- you should also research how other gift shops in your area have presented their establishments to the public
- create a questionnaire for managers of gift shops to establish which items sell well and why – this should include price and quality

- having completed this research you should complete **three** design ideas for a 2D and **three** for a 3D artefact
- develop **one** specific idea from your alternative ideas – you should annotate and evaluate your work to explain why you chose your final idea
- you should produce sample models and maquettes before you produce your ICT final solutions.

Assignment 9

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Postcard and jewellery designs based on a visit to the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool

Scenario:

The Walker Art Gallery has been an established tourist attraction in Liverpool for many years. It houses a wide range of artwork covering classical and contemporary pieces. The 'Visitors Centre' is currently being upgraded. The aim is to offer a wide range of saleable items that will promote the work of local artists and designers.

Brief:

Design Brief:

You have been asked to produce a range of six postcards that reflect six pieces of artwork within the gallery.

- Your interpretation of the artwork can be analytical or can refer to the narrative or symbolisation within the work
- The size will be A6 and will need to incorporate the gallery logo on the bottom right hand side of the postcard
- On the reverse there will need to be space for a stamp and an address. There are no colour restrictions
- This brief can be extended to design a relevant package/presentation box to house the cards

Craft Brief:

Produce a series of designs and one final visualisation of jewellery pieces inspired by a Pre-Raphaelite collection of paintings within the gallery.

- In your research you will look at samples of jewellery from the contemporary craft gallery and pieces that are on sale in the gift shop made by local designers
- You will need to produce items for both men and women and these must include ideas for a set of cufflinks and a tie pin, a necklace and a jewellery set

An A2 presentation sheet is required for both the postcards and for the jewellery designs.

Assignment 10

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: World Gallery

Scenario:

A national museum in Liverpool has recently refurbished their World Cultures' Gallery and wishes to enhance the artefacts and cultural artwork with 2D and 3D artwork from a variety of contemporary artists.

The museum wants the artwork to reflect contemporary artists' responses to their exhibitions in celebration of a multi-cultural society.

Artists will need to consider the historical and ongoing influences of these cultures on the development of western art and design.

Brief:

The gallery is split into four sections:

- 1 Africa
- 2 Asia
- 3 Oceania
- 4 The Americas

Following a visit to the World Gallery, choose one of the gallery sections in which to base your studies and produce:

- either a banner (70 cm width × 280 cm height) **or** a mural (200 cm width × 150 cm height) which celebrates the decorative elements of your chosen culture
- 3D artwork which will be displayed in a glass case (150 cm height × 79 cm width × 70 cm depth). The artwork should be a contemporary response rather than a replication and be influenced by one of the following:
 - Africa: masks
 - Asia: shadow puppets
 - Oceania: weaponry
 - The Americas: totem poles

Assignment 11

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Café Interior

Scenario:

To produce designs for a café/bar that is having a complete refit.
To use architectural forms as an inspiration and a starting point for designers.

Can be an individual or a group project.

Brief:

Produce a range of designs for a local café/bar, eg tableware, menus, publicity materials, table-cloths, furniture, interior colour schemes:

- investigate the work of established and contemporary artists and designers who use architectural forms or produce work across design disciplines, e.g. Jeff Banks, John Rocha, De Shy, Bauhaus, Macintosh
- take photographs of local architectural features, eg churches, bridges – from your observations explore and develop a range of images using a variety of techniques
- from your research and investigations, develop a range of design ideas for a 2D **and** for a 3D object for the café/bar
- modify and refine **one** of your chosen 2D and **one** of your 3D proposals
- produce a final Design Proposal to be presented to the client – include design drawings, models and maquettes in your response.

Assignment 12

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Art History Time-Line

Scenario:

As part of ongoing improvements in resource materials within the school, the Art Department has identified a need for a detailed time-line to be used within the department to enable students to understand how art has changed and developed over the last 100 years.

Brief:

Choose from a Fine Art, Graphic or Textile Fashion time-line.

- You have been asked to produce a time line that documents the history of art from 1900 to the present day.
- The time-line will be used within the school environment to help students understand how art has developed over the last 100 years.

Constraints for the time-line:

- must be horizontal in presentation
- must include written and relevant visual information
- must be clear and legible to allow pupils to access information easily
- must include secondary source images plus your own representations of the style
- must not simply be a second hand cut and paste exercise and must contain your own work.

Follow on:

Consider how some art movements could benefit from 3D elements within the timeline, eg kinetic art.

Assignment 13

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Commemorative Window Design

Scenario:

Design a site specific commemorative window. A local authority wants to celebrate the life of an artist who was born and worked within their town/area.

A new art gallery is to be built and a stained glass window is required to commemorate the local artist's birth.

Brief:

You have been commissioned to design a stained glass window for a new, art gallery in the town where the artist you are studying was born.

- Contact your client with your proposal
- Establish ways of negotiating the brief
- Discuss constraints in terms of time, media, materials, approach and site of the work
- Research the processes involved in stained glass window production
- Study the work of a contemporary artist working this medium
- Produce a 2D design proposal for the window
- Produce a 3D maquette using suitable materials

Assignment 14

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Felted Bag Project

Scenario:

A national art gallery would like new textile products to sell in their gift shop. Ideally the product would link to works of art displayed in the gallery. The gallery shop retails 'one-off', hand-crafted items.

Brief:

Design and make a felt bag to be sold in the gift shop. The cost of the bag must not exceed £50 retail and should be finished to a high quality. The bag must show an example of the type of unique product that can be produced. The client will need to see alternative designs that are well presented.

- You will need to research artists listed in the gallery, eg Gillian Ayres, Van Gogh, Picasso – select one
- Research practising felt artists
- Design a range of ideas and produce **one** final design
- Evaluate your designs including quality and appropriateness of production to brief
- Produce a 2D design proposal **and** a 3D sample

Assignment 15

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Street Photography – Magazine Project

Scenario:

A contemporary arts and culture magazine, based in a city within your region, has asked you to produce a series of photographs about the city, in particular, the cultural and economic redevelopment of an area within the city.

Take a series of photographs for a contemporary arts and culture magazine based in the city. The photographs will accompany a four page article. You will need to supply an establishing shot for the start of the article, 15 photographs of detail relating to your topic and a cover photograph for the front of the magazine. Capture the changing face of the area by looking at the old and the new.

Brief:

- Look at the work of American Street Photographers, such as Lee Friedlander, Robert Frank, William Eggleston and Stephen Shore and graffiti artists such as Banksy and others
- Analyse the work in detail and identify the main characteristics
- Develop a series of photographs that consider opening shots, establishing shots, details, and capturing the identity of a place
- Consider layout, scale, presentation of work and negative space for text
- Look at examples of other contemporary magazines such as City Lights, Kerrang, etc.

Assignment 16

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: A poster for a railway museum based on Futurism

Scenario:

Your local railway museum wants to reach out to the 16-25 age group as they are under represented in their visitor profile. The poster is to be displayed in the foyer during the summer months and should reflect ideas of Futurism and speed. The poster should also reflect a contemporary spin on historical poster design.

Brief:

The poster should be A1 size and will reflect imagery in and around the railway museum.

Task 1:

- research a variety of styles including Futurism
- research into others' visual work, eg artists, craftspeople, photographers and designers.

Task 2:

- work with a range of media, materials, techniques, technology and 3D media
- work out which are the most effective and appropriate.

Task 3:

- develop your best ideas further, **one** idea should have 3D elements
- try out several possibilities.

Task 4:

- modify and refine your ideas
- check that you have met the requirements of the brief.

Task 5:

- select **one** of your ideas and produce high quality, suitably presented final work.

Assignment 17

Unit 4: Historical and Contemporary References

Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2(a), AO2(b), AO3

The Project Brief

Title: Investigation of Contemporary Public Art Practice on Tyneside and its Influences

Scenario:

In Tyneside there is a wealth of exciting contemporary art and design practice produced for public spaces. The local council in both Newcastle and Gateshead are committed to the commissioning and funding of public art to enhance the environment.

Recent commissions include site specific sculpture, installations and street furniture. A recently appointed Access Officer for Northern Arts wishes to raise the profile of the influence of these works, to enable tax payers to develop an understanding of how art and design can enhance the quality of life.

Brief:

You have been commissioned by the Northern Arts Access Officer to produce a guide to a variety of public art and design work.

- The works should be in close proximity to each other, i.e. easily visited on foot in a short period of time, approximately 1 hour
- The guide should be produced as a set of ten A5 postcards which include visual and written research
- The guide must provide some background information on each artist or designer and the influences on them – there should also be some information on the commissioning making and processes.

Link to Unit 1:

Design an illustrated map that shows sculptures included in the trail, artist studios, galleries and museums. This could be an interactive map and be put on a CD ROM.

Link to Unit 2:

Design a new piece of sculpture or street furniture which would enhance a specific site within your chosen area.