

A level Art and Design (9704)

Component 1: Controlled Test

Can candidates use personal stereos in the examination room?

No standard invigilation procedures apply to all candidates taking any CIE examination

Is it appropriate for my candidates to copy images from magazines and/or photographs?

No, candidates should not be encouraged to 'copy' images. Candidates are awarded marks for personal investigation, research, and development of ideas and so on. They are not rewarded marks for their accuracy in copying secondary images.

Do my candidates have to submit work that is A1 size?

No, candidates can submit smaller work than that stated. They should not submit work that is larger than the size stated.

Does the work have to be mounted? Our Centre has limited resources and cannot afford to get the work mounted professionally?

Absolutely not, work can be mounted on ordinary paper if so desired, but it does not have to be mounted at all. Centres who do get their candidates' work professionally mounted will not be at a more advantageous position than those who cannot. Centres should also bear in mind the added expense mounting work creates in terms of transit costs.

There is no specific timetable date for the Controlled test. The timetable just says between 03/03 and 05/06 on the June timetable and 1/11 - 30/11 on the November timetable.

Centres need to schedule the examination to suit their individual restrictions. Candidates must be given the full fifteen hours to complete the test and it must be finished by 5 June for the June session and 30 November for the November session. Centres should ensure that the time allocated runs as conveniently as possible, ideally candidates would be given five hours over three consecutive days. It would not be advisable to timetable the examination over an excessive period of time and into blocks of time smaller than three hours.

When should I hand out the question paper?

The question paper should be handed out to candidates as soon as the Centre receives it. Candidates must have at least three weeks to prepare for the examination. Centres determine when candidates will sit the examination within the given dates.

When do I send the work to CIE for marking?

As soon as the candidates have sat the examination, the work should be packed and sent to CIE. If the examination has been scheduled early within the given period, do not wait until the end date before despatching the work. Work that requires drying (oil paints) must be thoroughly dried before it is despatched.

How do I send the work to CIE?

Please refer to the Appendix 1- General Instructions in the syllabus.

Components 2 and 3: Coursework A and B

Will we get the coursework sent back?

Yes, at present all coursework is returned automatically without charge.

Should we send all the work that the candidate has done during the course?

No, the work sent to CIE for moderation should be a selection. It is in the candidate's best interest to select their best work as all work should be assessed and weaker work will affect this assessment. Quality of work is far more important than quantity. Centres also need to be aware of the transit costs involved.

I have a candidate who has produced large/fragile work. Do I have to send it to CIE?

Not necessarily, as you are only required to send us a sample of work, do not include their work in the sample. If your entry is small and you are required to send all your candidates' work in for moderation - please take photographs of the large/fragile pieces with an explanatory note. As long as the photographs indicate the scale of the piece(s) and are of a good quality, there should be no problem with the moderation of the work.

Component 4: Related Study

Does the work have to be in the form of a written essay?

No, candidates are encouraged to submit work for this paper in a number of different ways. The presentation can take on the form of an annotated essay, a video presentation, and 3D presentation, up to A1 size, double page layout with integrated text and images. Examples of studies undertaken are available in the AS/A Level Art & Design Standards Booklet.

This paper is new to us and we have no real idea what topics would be appropriate. Can you advise?

Yes, Centres who have never undertaken this type of paper before and indeed Centres who have not, are encouraged to seek advice as early as possible. Centres should obtain copies of the outline proposal form from CIE and fill them in as soon as possible. CIE will obtain advice and report back to you with comments. The deadline for receipt of these forms is October 31 of the year before the examination. Examples can be found in the back of the syllabus along with a blank form that Centres may want to photocopy.

Candidates should be advised to state clearly the link with their coursework.