



General Certificate of Education

**Applied Art and Design
(8511, 8513, 8516, 8517, 8519)**

ADA6 – ADF6 – Option Unit

Report on the Examination

2011 examination - June series

ADO6 – Option Unit

ADO6 consists of a series of 6 options including drawing and painting or printmaking, photography, film and video, graphic design, public art, textile art and fashion, and 3D design. From these options candidates select one to study. Centres should keep in mind the requirement for a short report on progression routes and career opportunities. All 6 options have this requirement specific to the specialism chosen. Some candidates provided very full information on progression in their chosen field which was clearly of good practical assistance to them. Their work on this, in some cases, had been aided by a very good selection of trips and/or visiting practitioners, which had added both to candidates' experiences and to their thought processes.

Some centres allowed candidates to choose their own option for study, whilst others chose one option for all their candidates to study depending on the resources and staff they had available. Written briefs are always valuable and should cover the individual options found in the specification. Briefs should include a series of realistic constraints to reflect the vocational nature of the subject. However, the overall quality of work would benefit from improved contextualisation of ideas and greater discussions of alternatives through drawing, media manipulations and risk-taking. It is important that candidates check the requirements of particular options and that they work in a vocational way, responding to the wishes of the client and following the constraints set.

ADC6, the Graphic design option, was popular, with strong ICT elements and local designers chosen for the research element. Candidates used screenshots to good advantage when explaining the development of their graphics work. This was quite often evaluative and included discussion of the changes and so was a very useful method to adopt.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available at www.aqa.org.uk/over/stat.html .

The UMS conversion calculator can be found at www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion .

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