



**General Certificate of Education (A-level) Applied  
June 2012**

**Applied Art and Design**

**AD02**

**(Specification  
8511/8513/8516/8517/8519)**

**Unit 2: Investigation of 3D visual language**

***Report on the Examination***

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## **AD02 – Investigation of 3D visual language**

The submissions for AD02 have improved considerably over time both in their understanding of requirements and in the skills and techniques shown in the work. In some centres a wide range of 3D materials and processes were in evidence and enterprising ways of using recycled materials have been seen this year.

There was very good experimentation where candidates had tested out combinations of materials as well as textile methods such as weaving with wire, paper and plastics. Some of the 3D proposals were excellent and showed an imaginative use of materials. Where there is access to ceramic work, some extremely detailed and exciting work was seen, including well-made pottery and ceramic jewellery.

However, there are still centres where the work submitted for AD02 was weaker. There were still too many candidates presenting finished artefacts with little experimental work and combinations of 3D media. The focus of the unit is investigating 3D visual language and therefore, a range of samples and test pieces based on a vocational theme or brief, with analysis and research, are all that are required. In AD02, design outcomes or design proposals are not required and investigation and experimentation using 3D formal elements should be the focus.

Creativity with the selection and combinations of materials allowed for higher marks to be gained in AO2(a). It is also important to cover both primary and secondary sources as mentioned in the strap-line.

There were some strong examples of sketchbook work to record sources and explore 3D visual language, as well as to investigate and develop alternative ideas.

In this particular unit a summative evaluation is not required and formative comments explaining the effectiveness of, and suggesting improvements to, the use of 3D visual language would be appropriate.

## **Mark Ranges and Award of Grades**

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