



General Certificate of Education

Applied Information and Communication Technology 8751, 8753, 8756 & 8759

IT07 Creating a Website

Report on the Examination

2009 examination - June series

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Unit 7: Creating a Website (IT07)

This unit was the most popular of the Double Award optional units, with the majority of candidates being entered for it. It was clear, from the portfolios seen, that candidates had enjoyed the practical aspects of the unit and some websites had been produced that compared favourably with commercially produced ones. A very wide range of real clients had been used and these enabled candidates to produce a variety of interesting sites.

This is a unit where the use of authenticated witness statements would be an excellent source of evidence, or confirmation of a student's account, of items that are otherwise difficult to document. Witness statements could be used for such items as the use of video and sound; the correct setting up and working of hyperlinks; that off-line and on-line versions of the website are fully working; the use of special effects; and the use of page formatting structures in web pages that are not easily visible.

A small number of candidates included extensive printouts of html code. This should be actively discouraged unless it is annotated to show relevant details that are required to meet the assessment criteria, in which case only the relevant sections should be included.

Candidates must show how they have used appropriate file names and folders to manage their website work to gain marks on AO1, Row 5. For 3 marks, they must have **consistently** used appropriate file names and folders to manage their work. Good evidence would come from a screen shot of the folder that contains their website resources, to show it divided into suitable subfolders (e.g. images, html), and to show that all the file names are sensible (with meaningful names for images and buttons for example). If all files are not visible, it cannot be assumed that they have consistently done this. Unfortunately some candidates only provided screenshots of the folders and not the contents.

To gain 3 marks on AO3: Row 2, the annotation, or commentary, on the website structure diagram must identify how this structure meets the client needs. The design for the structure of the website must be either hand-drawn or created using appropriate software. It is not acceptable for candidates to implement the website and then show the structure diagram produced in the web design software. This is documentation of the website rather than design work.

Candidates should be encouraged to provide screenshots of their web pages in a browser, rather than in the web page editor, as these often more accurately reflect the final product and often provide additional evidence of the actual implementation of the website. Unfortunately many candidates provided screenshots that were difficult or impossible to read because of their size or because of colour clashes exacerbated by printing in monochrome.

The use of code from external sources was often incorrectly demonstrated. Where such code is used, the candidate should state the source. If the code has been edited the original and the edited versions should be shown.

Row 3 of AO1 requires code from external sources to assist the functionality of the web pages. Many candidates had used code from external sources but had not explained how it assisted the functionality of their site, so were not able to gain more than one mark on this row.

The requirement for AO1, Row 3 should not be confused with that for AO2, Row 4. This requires the candidate to research the coding of features used by websites to enhance their web pages. Some candidates investigated other websites and had provided extensive analyses

of their good and bad features, but had not shown the coding used to produce these features. These candidates could not gain any marks on this row. Similarly, candidates who only carried out research in websites that provide downloadable html code did not gain marks on this row, as they had not researched features that enhance existing web pages.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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