Sample Exercises for Computer Graphics

Introductory Activity

Module overview and introduction to the key features of the graphics facilities.

Have a display of material produced by students in previous years, showing the range of work produced.

Show students how to draw a line or regular shape using a specified colour and how to select an object in order to copy it, move it, change its size or delete it. Give them five minutes to place as many coloured lines and shapes as they can, anywhere on the page, any size and any colour!

Exercise One

Possible activity for session plan one in the suggested scheme of work

Company logo.

Students construct a simple company logo based on using a coloured rectangle or triangle along with copy, paste and flip or rotate (fixed, 60° or 90°). Students use a text box to add their own name to the page before printing.

Exercise Two

Possible activity for session plan one in the suggested scheme of work

Poster with border advertising an event:

- one large text box for event title (large point size, centred)
- another text box for event details (smaller point size, left aligned)
- add a border by copying and pasting a simple shape (e.g. a coloured ball) or design; alternatively, use copy and paste then flip or rotate to place a motif in each corner
- add a small text box, at the bottom of the page, with student's name in a small point size before saving and printing

Exercise Three

Possible activity for session plan two in the suggested scheme of work

Flow diagram for a task

This could be an industrial or commercial process or perhaps a study plan, identifying tasks, decisions and timing of events in preparation for terminal examinations.

To carry out this activity, students will need to

- construct a range of decision /instruction 'boxes' with suitable line colour and thickness and fill colour or pattern
- add text boxes to each of the above, using suitable fonts and text alignment
- group the text box and the underlying graphics box together then place the grouped objects on the page
- create lines and arrows of appropriate colour, thickness and style to make links between the boxes
- add a title text box at the top of the page

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- add a small text box at the bottom of the page, with student's name in a small point size, before saving and printing

Exercise Four

Possible activity for session plan two in the suggested scheme of work

Office plan

The instructions for this activity should include

- information on the kind of office, how many people work in the office and what kinds of furniture they need
- the dimensions of the floor, translated into cm equivalents for the student plans, and where the doors and windows are. (You will need to tell students how to draw these, too)
- the shape and dimensions for a typical desk, chair or whatever, translated into cm equivalents for the student drawing (**NB** this should not be a mathematical exercise in converting real object dimensions into scale drawings!)

It will be more fun for students if you ask them to choose the colour scheme and layout.
It will help students if your instruction sheet contains images of each type of graphic object (e.g. floor, chair, desk, door), showing the correct shape and size and **showing** where the doors and windows are meant to be.

Exercise Five

Possible activity for session plan three in suggested scheme of work

Design for box packaging sleeve or CD sleeve.

Students will need to be told the dimensions of the sleeve and will need to place on it

- a company logo/performer name
- the product name/album name
- an image of the product or showing the product being used (this can be as imaginative as you like!)/image to match title theme
- a text box detailing the contents
- a small text box with the student's name

Exercise Six

Possible activity for end of session four after practice test

Individual progress review

You could print out a sheet with tick boxes or gaps to enter information or prepare a template for students to edit and enter information on, similar to the one outlined below:

Individual progress review

Name: (student to enter, in bold)
Date: (student to enter)

These are the activities you should/ could have completed so far. Place a number to the right of each activity to show what you have completed: 2= completed, 1= started but unfinished, 0= not done.
List of activities

The list below shows the things you should be able to do
List (*NB tutors: these will be the performance criteria expressed less formally, perhaps in 'I can' type statements*).

Move each statement/description so that it is under the most appropriate heading for you right now.

I can do these independently and well

I need some help with these / I'm not very confident with these yet

I need help with these

I haven't done these

Exercise Seven

Possible activity for session plans three or four in the suggested scheme of work

Modifying the lettering of a title or company logo so as to convey the key idea graphically as well as verbally.

Start with a word or phrase. Use tools such as reflect, rotate, stretch or distort on words or individual letters. Add other effects such as lines, airbrushing to complete the effect.
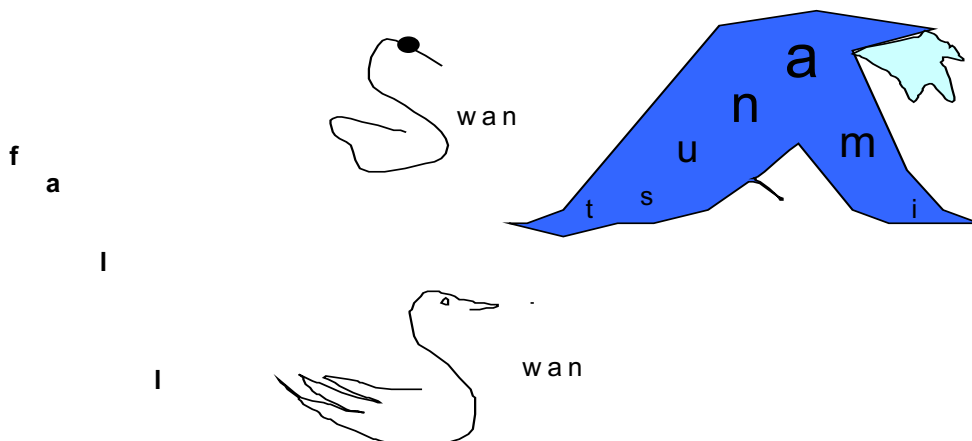
Show students some very simple ideas such as the ones above so that the less confident students aren't overwhelmed by the task. Encourage students to see what they can do.