



General Certificate of Secondary Education

Art and Design (Short Course)

3211

Report on the Examination

2007 examination – June series

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Moderators reported that courses were well planned and structured and that they had seen some very good examples of work involving all four assessment objectives and a wide range of materials. Generally candidates produced one full unit of Coursework using a variety of media, tools and techniques. Mostly candidates who had not produced enough work to be entered for the full GCSE Art and Design (Unendorsed) course, or whose attendance was limited, were entered for the Short Course. It was clearly a good option for teachers to ensure that candidates achieved a positive outcome from their art courses.

A huge range of ability was shown in Short Course submissions, from able candidates with only one unit of Coursework, to really hard working candidates with SEN statements. Some moderators reported that they only saw work of weaker candidates in the Short Course and that there was a heavy reliance on second-hand images. Others reported that work was lively and imaginative although not of a high standard. Sometimes it was not clear how the final pieces had been arrived at in relation to the preparatory studies and assessment objective 2 was often no more than a collection of secondary source material.

In one centre, candidates had completed the Entry Level Certificate Art and Design the previous year and then had been entered for the GCSE Art and Design (Short Course). Work had not reached particularly high levels but candidates had been successful in terms of their achievement. Some centres had used the Short Course for their more able candidates who had difficulties fitting all of their needs into the curriculum. Some centres entered Year 9 candidates for the Short Course.

As with the Art and Design (Unendorsed) course, there was considerable emphasis on the use of photography and this was a major benefit to candidates, increasing their standard of work when compared to previous years.

Art in Boxes was by far the most popular question, with *Structures* and *Recycling* also attempted well. The Report on the Examination for the Art and Design (Unendorsed) Controlled Test question paper (3201T) provides further relevant information since the questions are identical to those on the Short Course question paper.

Mark ranges and award of grades

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