Years 9–10 assessment techniques and conditions

Technologies — Design and Technologies

This document outlines assessment techniques and response conditions to achieve range and balance within an assessment program. Schools consider the local context, and the age and capabilities of the students, when selecting appropriate assessment techniques and response conditions.

Techniques	Project	Investigation	Examination
Description	A project assesses students' abilities to design and produce designed solutions that meet needs or opportunities by addressing specified contexts and documenting the design process.	An investigation assesses students' abilities to research, collect, analyse, interpret and draw conclusions about data or information.	An examination assesses students' responses that are produced independently, under supervised conditions and in a set timeframe. An examination ensures student authorship.
	A design project requires students to apply the knowledge, understanding and skills for one or more technologies contexts: • engineering principles and systems • food and fibre production • food specialisation • materials and technologies specialisation. Students: • evaluate needs or opportunities • establish criteria for success, including sustainability considerations • create and evaluate design ideas • justify decisions • evaluate solutions and processes • communicate and document projects, including marketing • sequence production and management plans.	An investigation requires students to locate and use data or information that goes beyond what they have been given and the knowledge they currently have. Research conventions must be followed, e.g. acknowledging sources, regardless of the presentation format.	Examinations requires students to respond to one or more assessment items. These items are based on questions or tasks that are typically unseen. Questions or tasks may be based on stimulus material. Stimulus materials may be seen or unseen. • Seen questions, statements or stimulus materials should be provided with sufficient time for students to adequately engage with the materials. • Unseen questions, statements or stimulus materials should not be copied from information or texts that students have previously been exposed to, or have directly used, in class.

For all Queensland schools

Techniques	Project	Investigation	Examination

Formats (examples only)	Formats include:
	• written
	  – a folio capturing the design process undertaken by the student
	• practical
	  – the designed solution, in the form of a product, service or environment.
		Formats include:
		• written
		  – description/explanation
		  – exposition
		  – report
		  – feature article
		  – evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of design ideas and technologies
		• spoken/signed or multimodal
		  – presentation
		  – interview
		  – oral report
		  – seminar
		  – slideshow
		  – device applications
		  – webpage
		  – podcast.
			Formats include:
			• short response items
			• extended response items
			  – explanation of a process and/or practical activity
			  – construction, interpretation and/or analysis of primary or secondary data
			  – response to a design challenge
			• response to stimulus.

Conditions	Suggested length:* • written responses including graphical representations 300–400 words • spoken/signed responses 2–3 minutes • multimodal responses 3–4 minutes • video recordings up to 2 minutes.	Suggested length:* • written responses 600–800 words • spoken/signed responses 3–4 minutes • multimodal responses 4–5 minutes.	Suggested time: • up to 90 minutes, plus 10 minutes perusal. Suggested length:* • up to 600 words.

Notes
Responses may be written, spoken/signed or multimodal (integrating visual, print and/or audio features), recorded or live.
* Length of student responses should be considered in the context of the assessment. Longer responses do not necessarily provide better quality evidence of achievement.
All practical work must be organised with student safety in mind. Information on creating safe and healthy school environments, along with current work health and safety laws, is available at the Queensland Department of Education website. Schools must ensure their practices meet current guidelines.