

Design marking guide and response

External assessment 2025

Examination — Design challenge (34 marks)

Assessment objectives

This assessment instrument is used to determine student achievement in the following objectives:

2. represent ideas, and a sustainable design concept using schematic sketching and/or ideation sketching in the develop phase
4. devise ideas using divergent thinking strategies in response to a redesign problem in the develop phase
5. synthesise ideas and sustainability information to propose a sustainable design concept in the develop phase
6. evaluate the strengths, limitations and implications of ideas against design criteria and make refinements.

Note: Objectives 1, 3 and 7 are not covered in this assessment.

Purpose

This document consists of a marking guide and a sample response.

The marking guide:

- provides a tool for calibrating external assessment markers to ensure reliability of results
- indicates the correlation, for each question, between mark allocation and qualities at each level of the mark range
- informs schools and students about how marks are matched to qualities in student responses.

The sample response:

- demonstrates the qualities of a high-level response
- has been annotated using the marking guide.

Mark allocation

Where a response does not meet any of the descriptors for a question or a criterion, a mark of '0' will be recorded.

Marking guide

Criterion: Devising ideas

Divergence of ideas		Attributes of ideas	
The response:	M	The response:	M
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows a wide range of ideas, based on multiple different ways of responding to the problem 	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows unique, credible and detailed ideas in response to all design criteria that demonstrate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> perceptive understanding of the functional, aesthetic and symbolic aspects of social sustainability discerning use of the stimulus 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows a range of ideas, based on at least two different ways of responding to the problem 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows credible and detailed ideas in response to all design criteria that demonstrate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> knowledge of social sustainability purposeful use of the stimulus 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows a range of ideas that are similar to each other in their response to the problem 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows credible ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> related to the stimulus and social sustainability in response to at least two design criteria 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows ideas that respond to the problem 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows superficial ideas related to the stimulus in response to at least one design criterion 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows one idea <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> describes suggestions that respond to the problem 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> describes ideas related to the stimulus 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. 	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. 	0

Criterion: Evaluating and refining

Evaluation of ideas		Refinement of ideas	
The response:	M	The response:	M
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides a critical evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> of the strengths, limitations and implications of particular attributes of ideas against all design criteria 	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows discerning changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to ideas by modifying their attributes (selected for value and relevance) to improve how the range of ideas matches the criteria based on judgments related to all design criteria 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides a reasoned evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> of the strengths and limitations of ideas against all design criteria 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows effective changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to ideas that improve how they match the criteria based on judgments related to at least two design criteria 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides statements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> about the strengths and limitations of ideas that are believable and able to be actioned related to at least two design criteria 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows adequate changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to at least two ideas based on judgments related to at least one design criterion 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides statements concerned with the obvious strengths or limitations of ideas against at least one design criterion 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows superficial changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to at least one idea related to at least one design criterion 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides statements about ideas 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows trivial embellishment OR shows changes to a flawed idea 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. 	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. 	0

Criterion: Design concept

The response:	M
<ul style="list-style-type: none">proposes an innovative socially sustainable design concept that<ul style="list-style-type: none">includes a coherent and logical synthesis of devised ideas and stimulus informationsatisfies all design criteria	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">proposes a credible socially sustainable design concept that<ul style="list-style-type: none">includes a logical synthesis of devised ideas and stimulus informationsatisfies at least two design criteria	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">proposes a simple sustainable design concept that<ul style="list-style-type: none">combines ideas and stimulus informationsatisfies at least one design criterion	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">proposes a rudimentary design concept that satisfies at least one design criterion	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">shows a partial design concept in response to the problem	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion: Representing

Representing ideas		Representing the design concept	
The response:	M	The response:	M
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows ideation sketching of ideas using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> refined freehand methods sophisticated application of form, line, tone, colour, shape, contrast, proximity, hierarchy and scaled details to show critical attributes of ideas combinations and sequences of related sketches to easily show the progression of ideas 	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows a sketch of the design concept using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> refined freehand methods sophisticated application of form, line, tone, colour, shape, contrast, proximity, hierarchy and scaled details to show how critical attributes satisfy the design criteria 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows ideation sketching of ideas using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> careful and deliberate freehand methods that may include the use of a ruler considered application of form, line, colour, tone, shape and scaled details to show attributes of ideas sequences of related sketches to show changes in the detail of devised ideas 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows a sketch of the design concept using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> careful and deliberate freehand methods that may include the use of a ruler considered application of form, line, colour, tone, shape and scaled details to show attributes that satisfy the design criteria 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows ideation sketching of ideas using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> basic methods fit for purpose — three-dimensional objects are represented pictorially appropriate application of form, line, colour or tone, and shape sketches to show changes to the general form of ideas across the pages 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows a sketch of the design concept using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> basic methods fit for purpose — three-dimensional objects are represented pictorially appropriate application of form, line, colour or tone, and shape 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows sketching of ideas with little attention to detail or small thumbnail images 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows a sketch of the design concept with little attention to detail 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relies on written text descriptions 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. 	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. 	0		



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