

**GCSE Graphic Products for Edexcel**  
 Reviewed by *George Asquith, Head of Technology, Greenhead School, Keighley, West Yorkshire*

I opened the book a little time after I received it and immediately thought 'wow, this is different'. Since then, I have spent a lot of time with the book as it has been on my desk at school. I have sat in the sun on the deck and read it, taken a serious study of it and I still think 'wow, this is different'. I congratulate Heinemann and Jon Attwood for being brave enough to break the mould of class textbooks.

The book has 156 pages divided into four major sections and two further sections on coursework and is in full-colour. It is also linked to the Edexcel specification and I feel this has its pros and cons. On the plus side, Edexcel centres have a very special textbook, all of which is relevant. On the minus side, other centres may feel that it is not for them but they would be wrong. Much of the content is relevant to all GCSE boards' design and technology graphic product specifications. They should send for inspection copies and give the document much thought and consideration.

It is designed as a student textbook for GCSE and is a little expensive at £13.50 compared with other books around. If at this time funds do not run to class sets, teachers should have at least a copy from which to prepare their lessons as the content is some of the most detailed I have seen. Jon Attwood has made a great effort to achieve correctness, something a number of other books aimed at the same market fail to do.

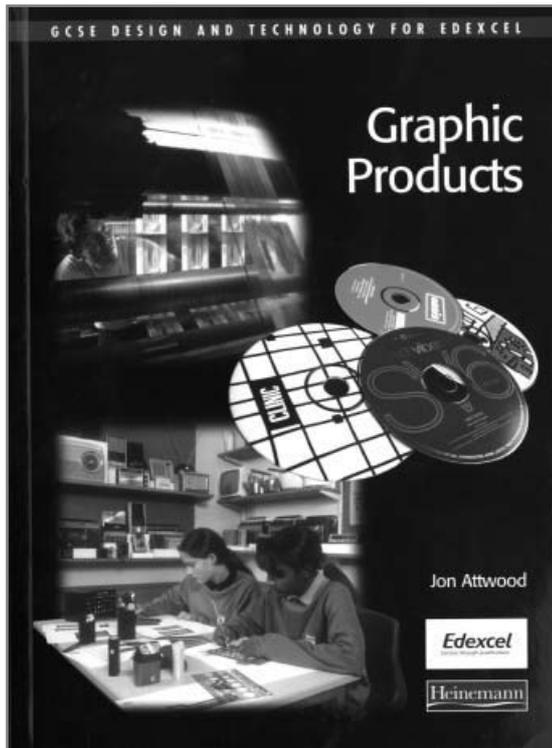
In the four major sections the following are dealt with:

Section A – The classification and selection of materials and components.

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Jon Attwood  
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Appropriate content	////	Generic use	
Pupil/student use	////	One of a series	←
Teacher resource	////	Photocopiable	←
Visuals	////	Pupil/student activities	←
Overall style	////	Cross-curricular	



In this section, paper, board, woods, metals, plastics, glass and components are dealt with. I have a particular interest in paper and the various printing processes (dealt with in Section B) and I find Jon's work most accurate. I feel that examiners from examination boards other than Edexcel will use the book as reference for the setting of exam questions. Information of this quality is hard to come by all in one place.

Section B – Preparing, processing and finishing materials.

This includes topics such as corrugation, laminating (as thought of by the industry and not as in schools, which technically is encapsulation) the various printing processes and enhancement, which contains good information such as die cutting, folding, varnishing, embossing and hot foil blocking. The section continues by delving into preparing for manufacture, lay planning, quality of manufacture, CAD and CAM.

Section C – Manufacturing commercial products.

This is devoted to one-off, batch, mass and continuous production.

Section D – Design and market influence.

This is a very comprehensive look at design and market influences, little if anything is left out.

Sections E and F are short and devoted to full and short coursework topics. They are specifically directed to the coursework of Edexcel but they contain much valuable information for all, as long as these sections are used sensitively by the teachers and not used as wet Thursday afternoon cover material.

I find the content and presentation first class and very appropriate for GCSE and most useful for AS and A2. It will form a valuable reference for staff and examiners alike and the only down side I can find is the cost. A truly special textbook.