

Revise for Edexcel GCSE Graphic Products

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This Revise Guide has been written by two experienced examiners and is specifically aimed at pupils taking the Edexcel GCSE (Long and Short course) Graphic Products. It covers the information needed for the written element(s) of the Edexcel Specification. As might be expected of experienced Examiners, they know how the questions are structured and what information is needed in the answers. This knowledge is reflected throughout the book.

The Guide consists of 94 pages and is divided into four sections:

- Introduction - Do you want to know how to improve your grade?
This is informative and pupil-friendly. (Brief, to the point and avoids patronising language). It explains the purpose of revision, how to use the book to best advantage and how the book is organised.
- Section 1 – Revision Strategy and Explanation.
This section deals with the written examination. It explains the structure of the written paper, time management, key words and how to write answers to obtain the best results.
- Sections 2 & 3 – (Assessment Objective 1 & 3 Edexcel Specification).
These two sections: combine some of the content headings from the Edexcel Specification to form single topic headings. For example: graphic media, materials, health and safety, modelling, industrial processes, quality, fitness for purpose, CAD/CAM, ICT. Explain how these headings should be integrated when applied to designing. Assist pupils in understanding how to apply their knowledge and understanding to designing. Assists pupils to focus their revision and make effective use of time.
- Section 4 – Advice on Design and Product Analysis questions. Helps pupils to understand the Design question and the Product Analysis question, by

giving sample answers.

Words and explanations have been kept to a minimum, which makes it effective in appealing and catering for the target audience, but, apart from the front and back page, the whole book is printed in black and white, including illustrations.

Each sub-section contains:

Topics

Identify the major areas of the Syllabus Specification content for which pupils need to know and understand and then expand this information into key points.

Key Points

Identify what the pupil needs to know and then focus on its applications.

Examiner's Tips

These are highly relevant comments which, if followed, will ensure that a pupil obtains maximum marks.

Examination Questions with Sample Answers.

Key words are highlighted in bold. Text is accompanied by sketches/drawings where necessary and the overall layout is very good. However, as this Guide is designed for pupils, it was given to two GCSE Graphics groups (studying for OCR) to study and offer constructive comments. The overall consensus was as follows:

- The book would be more visually interesting if the illustrations were in colour rather than black and white. The front page is in colour so

why not the rest?
(It was pointed out that it is often cheaper to print in black and white).

- Text could be in different colours to add interest and emphasis important points – bold looks too much like teachers' handouts!
- I liked the simple, bulleted form of the notes. I thought that the 'Examiners Tips' and 'Key Points' were very useful ('Why don't teachers tell you these things?!')
- The section about 'SMART Materials' is good but I would have appreciated more examples.
- The Industrial Application indicators are useful. (An icon is used in the Guide to indicate an industrial application. An icon is also used to indicate when a particular piece of information is not needed for short courses.)
- Liked the sections on Product Analysis and Design Questions. (Although these sections did not directly apply to their particular, they offered guidelines to similar sections).

It would be easy to suggest that the examiner's answers to questions, for example, could be broken down with images or that it might be better to include diagrams to show examples of CAD/CAM, but it is doubtful that it would improve the basic layout of this Guide and would probably detract from the essentially basic and straightforward language and form of the book.

Excellent value for the price and essential for Edexcel pupils.

Revise for Edexcel GCSE Graphic Products

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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	