CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge O Level

ART & DESIGN **6090/03**

Paper 3 Externally Set Assignment: Design **October/November 2025**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 100

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the October/November 2025 series for most Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A and AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **5** printed pages.

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Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptions for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

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GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5: Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).
GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6: Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

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Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standard isation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
SEEN	Indicates that a page has been seen by the examiner

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Marks	AO1: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses 25 marks	AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes 25 marks	AO3: Develop ideas through investigation, demonstrating critical understanding 25 marks	AO4: Present a personal and coherent response that realises intentions and demonstrates an understanding of visual language 25 marks
21–25	**Excellent** skill in recording observations from a variety of relevant sources, showing intentions **effectively**	**Excellent** exploration of media, materials, techniques and processes, showing **effective** selection of relevant resources	**Excellent** development of ideas through investigation, demonstrating **effective** critical understanding	**Excellent** realisation of intentions, demonstrating **effective** understanding of visual language
16–20	**Confident** skill in recording observations from a variety of relevant sources, **consistently** showing intentions	**Confident** exploration of media, materials, techniques and processes, **consistently** selecting relevant resources	**Confident** development of ideas through investigation, **consistently** demonstrating critical understanding	**Confident** realisation of intentions, **consistently** demonstrating understanding of visual language
11–15	**Competent** skill in recording observations from a variety of relevant sources, showing **clear** intentions	**Competent** exploration of media, materials, techniques and processes, showing **clear** selection of relevant resources	**Competent** development of ideas through investigation, demonstrating **clear** critical understanding	**Competent** realisation of intentions, demonstrating **clear** understanding of visual language
6–10	**Satisfactory** skill in recording observations from several relevant sources, showing **some** intentions	**Satisfactory** exploration of media, materials, techniques and processes, showing **some** selection of relevant resources	**Satisfactory** development of ideas through investigation, demonstrating **some** understanding	**Satisfactory** realisation of intentions, demonstrating **some** understanding of visual language
1–5	**Limited** skill in recording observations from one or more sources, showing **basic** intentions	**Limited** exploration of media, materials, techniques and processes, showing **basic** selection of resources	**Limited** development of ideas through **basic** investigation	**Limited** realisation of intentions, demonstrating a **basic** understanding of visual language
0	No creditable work	No creditable work	No creditable work	No creditable work

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