



CCEA Level 1 Award in Occupational Studies (Legacy)
CCEA Level 2 Award in Occupational Studies (Legacy)

(Summer Series) 2014 (Legacy)

Principal Moderator's Report

occupational studies

Technology and Innovation

Foreword

This booklet outlines the performance of candidates in all aspects of CCEA's Level 1 and Level 2 Awards in Occupational Studies – Technology and Innovation (legacy) for this series.

CCEA hopes that the Chief Examiner's and/or Principal Moderator's report(s) will be viewed as a helpful and constructive medium to further support teachers and the learning process.

This booklet forms part of the suite of support materials for the specification. Further materials are available from the specification's microsite on our website at www.ccea.org.uk

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LEVEL 1 AND 2 AWARDS IN OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES - TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (LEGACY)

Principal Moderator's Report

Introduction

The Technology and Innovation pathway is increasing in popularity, particularly the digital units which are being offered in schools.

It is a pleasure to report on the continued high standard of coursework observed in the moderation of this summer series. As moderators we realise that coursework projects require thoughtful planning and much guidance and encouragement from dedicated teachers and lecturers. Well done to everyone.

There was a substantial drop in the number of students entered for the legacy specification this year as centres move to the new specification.

Those centres that focus on developing practical skills such as the Building a Website unit are clearly working towards the practical focus in the course, hence the title "Occupational Studies". The moderation team believe that young adults are much better prepared for the workplace after gaining skills in the various pathways within this specification.

Resourcing of the vocational Occupational Studies specification is particularly important when delivering the units within this pathway. CCEA has a suggested list of the minimum resource requirements for each unit.

All units are accredited under the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) at Level 2, Level 1 and CCEA's own First Skills Award. The First Skills award will not be available in the new specification, although it is planned to have an Entry Level specification available from September 2015.

The grading boundaries in the new specification have changed to the following arrangement. A grading method, using Pass/Merit/Distinction, with notional equivalencies to GCSE grades has been developed.

Level 2	Distinction *	A*	=	180–200 marks
	Distinction	A	=	160–179 marks
	Merit	B	=	140–159 marks
	Pass	C	=	120–139 marks
Level 1	Distinction *	D	=	100–119 marks
	Merit	E	=	80–99 marks
	Pass	F/G	=	40–79 marks
	Unclassified	U	=	0–39 marks

Digital Music

The candidates have produced some very inventive products. As in previous years, this unit has allowed the creative skills, musical styles and interests of the learners to be explored. The skills that learners have gained will be used at home in most cases and hopefully give employment opportunities for some of these talented learners. They have certainly gained skills in using software and in burning their own music onto CDs.

Digital Imaging

This has been a very popular unit and each learner has gained more skills such as using a digital camera and using software such as Photoshop. The evidence that was produced in the learners' portfolios was generally very impressive and it was clear that manipulating images and creating posters or magazine covers, and other items such as Christmas cards, was enjoyed by all of the learners. The link between art and other creative activities is clear in this unit. All of the skills learnt in this unit can be called 'life skills' and will be useful not only in the learners' futures but in any employment or academic course that they undertake.

Introduction to Digital Video Production

This was a popular unit with some very good DVDs produced. The evidence in the portfolios showed that the learners have enjoyed the whole process from planning to filming their own video. The skills learnt in this unit will also be used in the future by most of these learners as they fully embrace social networking and posting their own videos on line.

Building a Website

This was a popular unit and each teaching centre has shown individual approaches in the production of the final product. The direction has mostly been steered by the learners' interests. The range of skills that the learners have mastered is impressive, and some of the websites reflected individual interests such as favourite football teams etc. The evidence provided for this unit has been excellent in almost all centres.

Animation in Flash

No centres took this unit this year.

Introduction to Flash Game Editing

This unit was taken by only a few candidates, but those that did already had a strong interest in this area and found the whole experience enjoyable and productive.

Digital TV and Film Production

The learners who took this unit worked as a team producing a short film. They learnt the skills of the whole process from scripting to planning the shoot and then adding the sound and special effects. The theme of 'horror movie' was the most popular and there were very few 'zombie movies' this year compared to previous years. It was interesting to see the differences in the final product depending on the competency of the editing and resources in individual centres.

Radio Production

The unit was taken by a smaller number of learners this year, but the final products showcased the skills that the learners had developed. The unit allowed the learner to experience the pre and post production skills to include useful skills such as team work and the need for effective time management.

Sound Production (Music Production)

The unit involves the use of different software packages and learning about different musical styles. The learners effectively demonstrated their skills and individual interests. There were a variety of end products that reflected a wide range of musical genres. The transferable skills that these learners have now developed should be beneficial in a broad range of situations.

Carpentry and Joinery 1

The final products that were presented for evidence were very impressive. The learners have all developed new skills and this is evidenced from the wide range of candidates. A lot of the learners state in their evaluations that the skills developed in this unit will be useful in future either in their own homes or in employment. The learners have all shown that they can produce an end product that they can take home and use.

Carpentry and Joinery 2

The final products that were presented for evidence were very impressive. The learners have all developed new skills and this is evidenced from the complete range of Level 1 to Level 2 candidates. Many learners state in their evaluations that the skills they have developed in this unit will be of use either in their own homes or in employment. The learners have all shown that they can produce an end product that they can take home and use.

Contact details

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