

T Level Technical Qualification in Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control (Level 3)

**Employer-Set project
(8730-034)**

**Marking Grid
(Summer 2026)**

Version 1.0

Version Control

Version	Updates made
V1.0	Version used for marking.

Contents

General marking approach	4
Assessment objectives	6
Employer-set project mark distribution	8
1. Research	9
2. Report	13
3. Design	19
4. Present	27
Maths, English and Digital skills	35

General marking approach

The following process details at high level the steps that will be undertaken by the external marking teams at City & Guilds following the submission of candidate's submitted evidence (including additional supporting evidence such as videos of presentations etc.).

Process

- Marker scans / reads the candidate's evidence, any notes on the Declaration of Authenticity e.g. regarding level of support recorded and the band descriptors. Evidence contained on Declaration of Authenticity is taken into account along with all other candidate evidence at the point of marking – the external marker makes a judgement on the level of performance the candidate has demonstrated taking all the evidence into consideration and they then judge the appropriate mark following the normal process
- Marker makes an initial assessment of the best fit to band
- Marker reviews the candidate evidence against the initial band descriptor in more detail to decide if the response is securely sitting within the band, ie all characteristics described by the band descriptor are seen or it strongly meet the level of performance described by the descriptor holistically

- Marker will also check the descriptor for the level above
- If evidence clearly shows some of the characteristics of the higher band, the marker will select a suitable mark at the bottom of that band
- If not showing characteristics of the higher band, the marker will revert to the original band, selecting a mark at the higher end of that mark range

If the response is not securely in the band, but is partially showing the characteristics of the band

- Marker will check the descriptor of the level below/above
- Marker will decide on a suitable mark either at the bottom of the original band as some characteristics shown, or top of the lower band if it better describes the quality of the characteristics being shown

If the response is largely meeting the band, with only a few concerns and is not showing characteristics aligning with the higher or lower bands, the appropriate mark is likely to be in the middle range.

If there is no alignment with the descriptor, the marker will reassess the starting band and begin again.

- Based on the level of alignment with the descriptor, the marker will confirm a final mark within the band, bearing in mind the marks available form an evenly distributed scale:
 - If the quality of response fully aligns with the performance described by the descriptor, the marker will assign a high mark within the band
 - If the quality of the response partially aligns with the performance described by the descriptor, the marker will assign a low to medium mark within the band
 - The marker will consider the quality of a range of similar responses (e.g., annotated lead grade exemplification materials, responses reviewed during standardisation, and through experience) and choose a mark that would give an appropriate ranking amongst those responses in relation to the full range of marks available in each band.
- In order to fully assess the evidence, it may be necessary to focus on several distinct aspects. These have been grouped into separate sub-grids to allow the marker to make separate assessment decisions, rather than attempt to bring disparate elements together as a holistic judgement, to support reliability, validity and manageability for the marker.
- Should a candidate make an error or display a weakness in one task that is further compounded through the inter-dependent nature of the tasks and carry through that error, the marker should penalise the candidate only once. Each task should be considered within the constraints of the marking for the task itself, focusing on the knowledge and skills to be demonstrated in that task. For example, if the candidate does not research suitable materials in task 1, when they get to the presentation task 4 where the solution is presented – the marker should focus on looking at how

well the candidate presents the solution they are proposing, ie, it is the presentation and communication skills that hold the main relevance in this task, rather than further penalising the candidate for a less than optimal material research and proposal from the initial task 1. Candidates can also use evaluation within later task responses to address issues they have identified.

Assessment objectives

The Employer-Set Project is assessed against five assessment objectives. The assessment objectives are mapped against each task within the marking grids:

AO Ref	Assessment Objective
AO1	Plan their approach to meeting the project brief
AO2	Apply core knowledge and skills as appropriate
• AO2a	○ core knowledge
• AO2b	○ core skills i) Analysing and interpreting - Evaluate and confirm the brief with reference to context, objectives and constraints (e.g. requirements, resources, precedents, technical issues, costs, health and safety, regulations, possibilities) ii) Planning and preparation - Propose and plan key activities, stages, methods, processes, techniques, documentation, resources (including types of tools and equipment) and risk assessments iii) Developing responses - Apply engineering and manufacturing processes to achieve specific objectives and to produce quality outcomes, using relevant techniques and technology, within limits of own authority iv) Evaluating and quality assuring - Carry out investigations, generate proposals and options, identify standard components and systems at relevant stages to gather and evaluate relevant evidence and data, and to confirm the suitability of plans, processes, actions and outcomes (including quality control and quality assurance activities) v) Communication and presentation - Record, report, communicate and present plans, proposals, processes, issues, risks and outcomes to both technical and non-technical audiences, across a range of suitable formats and media (e.g. diagrams, physical and digital records, presentations)

AO Ref	Assessment Objective
AO3	Select relevant techniques and resources to meet the brief
AO4	Use maths, English and digital skills as appropriate
• AO4a	○ maths
• AO4b	○ English
• AO4c	○ digital
AO5	Realise a project outcome and review how well the outcome meets the brief
• AO5a	○ realise a project outcome – was the right outcome achieved
• AO5b	○ review how well the outcome meets the brief, how well was the brief met, the quality of the outcome in relation to the brief

Employer-set project mark distribution

This table illustrates how the 90 marks for the Employer-Set Project are distributed against the tasks and mapped to each assessment objective. These have been set by subject matter experts and employers and will support the comparability between versions of the employer-set project over time.

Tasks	AO1	AO2a	AO2b	AO3	AO5a	AO5b	Total	AO4a	AO4b	AO4c
1. Research	3	3	6	3	0	0	15	3	3	3
2. Report	3	6	6	3	0	0	18			
3. Design	3	6	6	3	3	3	24			
4. Present	3	6	6	3	3	3	24			
Total	12	21	24	12	6	6	81	9		
AO marks	12	45		12	12		-	9		90
AO %	13.3%	50%		13.3%	13.3%		-	10%		100%

NB - AO2 collectively must be at least 50% (i.e. 45 marks)

1. Research

Grid 1: AO1, AO2a, AO3 Research (Planning, core knowledge, selecting techniques and resource)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: Research notes which should include a list of sources/references.		
Indicative Content	AO1 – Plan their approach to meeting the project brief	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
	The candidate's: - structure of the research notes and analysis - exploration of the requirements and the issues outlined in the task, and how consistent/balanced the consideration of each of these are in comparison to each other	AO1 (3)	9
	AO2a – Apply core knowledge	AO2a (3)	
	The candidate's: - confidence and appropriateness of use of terminology - accuracy of the research notes in relation to sources - refinement of their approach to the problem in relation to the brief given - selection and definition of key aspects of the task in relation to: - the typical-sized dimensions of toilet cisterns used in domestic properties - handwash basin designs that can be fitted onto and drain into typical-sized toilet cisterns used in domestic properties - a suitable bought-in filter system to remove solid particles - suitable non-ceramic material(s) for the handwash basin - any other material(s) and components that are needed to manufacture the system - costs of the materials and components that will be used - methods of assembly of the handwash basin and fittings - suitable manufacturing methods for the handwash basin to enable it to be produced in batches of 200 - any relevant health and safety consideration and legislation	AO3 (3)	

Grid 1: AO1, AO2a, AO3 Research (Planning, core knowledge, selecting techniques and resource)								
			AO3 – Select relevant techniques and resources to meet the brief The candidate's: ○ range of techniques/sources used to carry out research (such as the number of websites and the types of websites the candidate has used) ○ consideration of the relevance and reliability of the sources used during research. ○ range of potential solutions/options ○ references to sources from research of guidance and/or industry standards. ○ use of pictures, drawings, schematics, specifications, and sketches alongside prose to communicate their findings ○ use of material supplier data sheets and extracts from OEM catalogues to support research					
Marking descriptors – All versions								
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given								
Band 1 descriptor			Band 2 descriptor			Band 3 descriptor		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Some evidence of a planned approach to research. (AO1)			Approach to research and collation of information shows planning and consistency. (AO1)			Requirements of the brief are considered consistently throughout the research and information collation – clear evidence of methodical and thorough approach to research and information gathering. (AO1)		
Some elements of core knowledge referenced but focus may be imbalanced and more focused on one area than another. (AO2a)			Core knowledge applied in most areas of the brief requirements. (AO2a)			Core knowledge applied in all areas of the brief requirements. (AO2a)		
Research techniques and resources clear as part of evidence submission. (AO3)			Evidence of a range of techniques and resources used and referenced, with different source types considered. (AO3)			Evidence of comprehensive research techniques, use of resources, and full range of		

Grid 1: AO1, AO2a, AO3 Research (Planning, core knowledge, selecting techniques and resource)		
		sources. All sources fully detailed and presented fully and consistently. (AO3)

Grid 2: AO2b Research (Core Skills)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: Research notes which should include a list of sources/references.		
Indicative Content	AO2b – Application of core skills Core skills being assessed: - Analysing and interpreting - demonstration of judgement and reasoning in relation to the review of the requirements from the brief - investigation into the specific and general issues provided in the brief - analysis of the requirements set out in the brief and consideration of how this impacts the design - Planning and preparation - evidence of planning the research in terms of consistency and balance of response (time spent consistently on researching different elements) - evidence of taking a planned approach to the research by addressing all factors which needs to be considered stated in the task - Developing responses - expression of ideas in associated research analysis and level to which they are supported, eg through inclusion of images	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
		AO2b (6)	6
Marking descriptors – All versions			
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given			
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor	
		Band 3 descriptor	

Grid 2: AO2b Research (Core Skills)					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Some basic elements of core skills drawn on and evidenced within task response - limited use of skills in relation to brief requirements. (AO2b)		A range of core skills applied and evidenced consistently in task response in relation to different elements of the project brief. (AO2b)		Core skills applied consistently and comprehensively throughout task completion with - full range of core skills evidenced. (AO2b)	

2. Report

Grid 3: AO1, AO3 Report (Planned approach, selecting techniques)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: Written report		
Indicative Content	AO1 – Plan their approach to meeting the project brief The candidate's: - planning of their report, in consistency and balance of coverage of points - coverage of the requested elements of the task, specifically: - the appropriate materials used to manufacture the handwash basin, and why they were selected - a suitable bought-in filter system - a handwash basin design that can be fitted onto and drain into typical-sized toilet cisterns - suitable methods of assembly of the handwash basin and fittings, and why they were selected - suitable manufacturing methods for the handwash basin and how these will enable it to be produced in batches of 200 - calculations of the costs of the materials and components - any health and safety considerations relating to the proposed approach. - planning and fitting the different elements of the brief together to produce a correct response - level of detail provided of any assumptions related to the design problem detailed in the task AO3 – Select relevant techniques and resources to meet the brief The candidate's: - ability to apply the findings from the research into their initial proposals - clarity of solutions, and how closely, they are derived from brief guidance and research - references to sources from research of guidance and/or industry standards - use of pictures, drawings, schematics, specifications, and sketches alongside prose to communicate their findings	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
		AO1 (3)	6
		AO3 (3)	

Grid 3: AO1, AO3 Report (Planned approach, selecting techniques)						
	use of OEM catalogues and standards.					
Marking descriptors – All versions						
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given						
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Some evidence of a planned approach to task, response may lack detail and required information. (AO1)		Approach to report and required information is planned, organised and complete. (AO1)		Approach to report and required information fully comprehensive and in line with standard industry practices. (AO1)		
Some relevant techniques used in the preparation and presentation of report and associated information. (AO3)		Relevant techniques and industry conventions used throughout the preparation and presentation of report. (AO3)		Preparation and presentation of report and associated information is fully in line with industry conventions. (AO3)		

Grid 4: AO2a Report (Core Knowledge)						
Guidance for markers		Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: Written report				
Indicative Content	AO2a – Apply core knowledge The candidate's: - accuracy of using of technical terminology - technical accuracy and soundness of their proposed solution: - the technical validity of the report - the viability of the initial approach and whether it would realistically work within the context of the brief - interpretation of the information found within research and the accuracy of how this has been applied - exploration of different options and reasoning for refining/selecting solutions, how this links back to the specifics of the brief - connection and link between knowledge and understanding				AOs (marks)	Total marks available
					AO2a (6)	6
Marking descriptors – All versions						
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given						
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Some elements of core knowledge drawn on and evidenced – limited comprehension of knowledge in relation to brief requirements e.g. brief requirements omitted indicating lack of knowledge of that area. (AO2a)		Knowledge from across the core applied and evident in relation to different elements of the project brief. (AO2a)		Core knowledge applied consistently throughout response with minimal technical inaccuracies. (AO2a)		

Grid 4: AO2a Report (Core Knowledge)		
Some links to the application of core knowledge to support judgements, but connections are not always clear and accurate. (AO2a)	Links to the application of core knowledge to justify and support judgements, but with some gaps or inaccuracies. Concepts explained/referenced clearly and correctly. (AO2a)	Connections between elements of core knowledge exploited to strengthen arguments and demonstrate understanding. (AO2a)

Grid 5: AO2b Report (Core skills)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: Written report		
Indicative Content	AO2b – Application of core skills	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
	Core skills being assessed: - Analysing and interpreting - judgement and reasoning in relation to the refinement of the requirements from the brief and the content within the report - interpretation of the requirements set out in the brief and consideration of how this impacts the solution - Developing responses - incorporation of the required aspects in the response – use of logical and synergised approach to requirements - development of relevant evidence and data, to confirm the suitability of solution - Planning and preparation - evidence of planning, this is demonstrated through the structure of the report, by providing a logical and coherent response - Communication and presentation - effectiveness of communication of refined technical requirements for the solution - clarity and conciseness of delivery - expression of ideas in a written report	AO2b (6)	6
Marking descriptors – All versions			
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given			

Grid 5: AO2b Report (Core skills)					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Some elements of core skills drawn on and evidenced within task response - limited use of skills in relation to brief requirements. (AO2b)		A range of core skills applied and evident in task response in relation to different elements of the project brief. (AO2b)		Core skills applied consistently throughout task completion with - full range of core skills evidenced. (AO2b)	
Response has limited logic and shows superficial coherence between different aspects of the brief. (AO2b)		Response is logical and shows some coherence between different aspects of the brief. (AO2b)		Response is logical and demonstrates detailed coherence between different aspects of the brief. (AO2b)	

3. Design

Grid 6: AO1, AO3 Design (Planned approach, selecting techniques)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: - Fully dimensioned orthographic drawing and assembly drawing including design iterations - Supporting design calculations - Reflective notes		
Indicative Content	AO1 – Plan their approach to meeting the project brief The candidate’s: - layout of drawings and the conformance to industry standards/best practice - inclusion of required coverage of the requested elements within the drawings: - a Bill of Materials (BOM) identifying the parts, materials and components required to manufacture the system and its components - any dimensions and tolerances - coherence of structure and clarity of assumptions in relation to the calculations AO3 – Select relevant techniques and resources to meet the brief The candidate’s - presentation of drawings, use of recognised techniques, adherence to drawing conventions and annotations, clarity, quality, and accuracy - use of a drawing frame for drawings, and inclusion of titling block - consideration of industry practices and use of adopted scale when creating the sketches and drawings - presentation and format of calculations	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
		AO1 (3)	6
		AO3 (3)	
Marking descriptors – All versions			
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given			

Grid 6: AO1, AO3 Design (Planned approach, selecting techniques)					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Some evidence of a planned approach to design task, response may lack detail and calculation information. (AO1)		Approach to design and calculation information is planned, organised and complete. (AO1)		Approach to design and calculations fully comprehensive and in line with standard industry practices. (AO1)	
Some relevant techniques used in the preparation and presentation of drawings/sketches and associated calculations. (AO3)		Relevant techniques and industry drawing conventions used throughout the preparation and presentation of drawings/sketches and associated calculations. (AO3)		Preparation and presentation of drawings/sketches and associated calculations is fully in line with industry drawing conventions showing the use of all correct techniques. (AO3)	

Grid 7: AO2a Design (Core Knowledge)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Fully dimensioned orthographic drawing and assembly drawing including design iterations • Supporting design calculations • Reflective notes		
Indicative Content	AO2a – Apply core knowledge The candidate's • choice of language used in any text on the drawings, its technical level and consistency with the intended audience • proposed solutions for the design, how well the solutions comply with industry guidance, have the potential to be implemented (its viability) and the technical sense of the solution specifically: ○ a Bill of Materials (BOM) identifying the parts, materials and components required to manufacture the system and its components ○ any dimensions and tolerances • accuracy of technical principles applied throughout the design • ability to make links between knowledge and understanding of engineering principles and apply this to the given scenario • approach to determining calculations, selected method used to determine this	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
		AO2a (6)	6

Grid 7: AO2a Design (Core Knowledge)					
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Some elements of core knowledge drawn on and evidenced - limited comprehension of knowledge in relation to brief requirements e.g. brief requirements omitted indicating lack of knowledge of that area. (AO2a)		Knowledge from across the core applied and evident in relation to different elements of the project brief. (AO2a)		Core knowledge applied consistently throughout response with minimal technical inaccuracies. (AO2a)	
Supporting information details some links to the application of core knowledge to support judgements, but connections are not always clear and accurate. (AO2a)		Supporting information details links to the application of core knowledge to justify and support judgements, but with some gaps or inaccuracies. (AO2a)		Connections between elements of core knowledge exploited to strengthen arguments and demonstrate understanding. (AO2a)	

Grid 8: AO2b Design (Core skills)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Fully dimensioned orthographic drawing and assembly drawing including design iterations • Supporting design calculations • Reflective notes		
Indicative Content	AO2b – Application of core skills Core skills being assessed: • Planning and preparation ○ evidence of planning, this is demonstrated through the completion of the drawings, supporting calculations and the reflective notes • Developing responses ○ use of draft iterations of the design to show how the design idea has developed during the completion of the tasks ○ demonstration of judgement and reasoning in relation to the preparation of the solution ○ incorporation of the required aspects in the design- use of logical and synergised approach • Evaluating and quality assuring ○ refinement of design ideas to present one final design, reflection on how the design meets the requirements ○ consideration of the solution and its functionality, by performing relevant calculation to consider the viability ○ use of reflective notes to evaluate design and how well it meets the outlined requirements • Communication and presentation ○ effectiveness in communicating idea/information through drawings and associated annotations so the key features of the designs can be interpreted ○ use of proportion, dimension and annotations on drawings	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
		AO2b (6)	6

Grid 8: AO2b Design (Core skills)					
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Some elements of core skills drawn on and evidenced within task response - limited use of skills in relation to brief requirements. (AO2b)		A range of core skills applied and evident in task response in relation to different elements of the project brief. (AO2b)		Core skills applied consistently throughout task completion with - full range of core skills evidenced. (AO2b)	

Grid 9: AO5a, AO5b Design (Realise/Review)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Fully dimensioned orthographic drawing and assembly drawing including design iterations • Supporting design calculations • Reflective notes		
Indicative Content	AO5a – realise a project outcome – was the right outcome achieved	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
	Considering the candidate's preferred chosen design and: • the effectiveness of the solution (fit for purpose) in relation to the context given in the project brief • the extent the solution meets the requirements of the brief	AO5a (3)	6
	AO5b – review how well the outcome meets the brief, how well the brief was met, the quality of the outcome in relation to the brief The candidate's • evaluation and review of requirements of the brief and recognition of how these have been met with proposed design • development of ideas, rationale for the selected design option, clarity on which has been taken forward • evaluation of how the final design has met the client requirements given in the brief • development of ideas throughout the task, refining, improving and building upon potential solutions as they progress	AO5b (3)	

Grid 9: AO5a, AO5b Design (Realise/Review)					
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Response partially addresses some of the task requirements. (AO5a)		Response addresses all aspects of the task requirements. (AO5a)		Response fully addresses all aspects of all the elements of the task requirements. (AO5a)	
Evaluation and review do not clearly address how well the task outcome met the brief and lacks clarity and reasoning in places. (AO5b)		Evaluation and review address how well the task outcome was achieved. (AO5b)		Evaluation and review are comprehensive and specifically addresses how well the task outcome was achieved. (AO5b)	

4. Present

Grid 10: AO1, AO3 Present (Planned approach, selecting techniques)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Video recording of presentation • Presentation materials (slides, handouts, notes etc) • Presentation Q&A Record (if this cannot be heard on the video) The presentation should cover; consideration of how your design has met the specific issues identified in the project brief, a summary of your proposed design which outlines the key features, challenges presented by the brief and how these have been overcome, how well your design proposal addresses the requirements of the brief, any changes you would make if repeating the project. Audience: technical background		
	Indicative Content	AO1 – Plan their approach to meeting the project brief The candidate’s: • logic, order and coherence, of the presentation • consideration of all aspects of the project, Task 1 – Task 4 • planning of the presentation to consider its target audience	AOs (marks)
AO3 – Select relevant techniques and resources to meet the brief The candidate’s: • selection and application of techniques for delivering the presentation, how appropriate and effective they are (e.g., use of slide deck, reference to notes, provision of handouts, use of other reference material) • use of positive non-verbal communication during delivery (e.g., maintaining eye contact with the audience) and the clarity of speaking/delivery, and the level of which distraction behaviour is displayed (e.g. rocking, tapping, pausing)		AO1 (3) AO3 (3)	6

Grid 10: AO1, AO3 Present (Planned approach, selecting techniques)					
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
The presentation lacks structure and does not always follow a logical approach due to ineffective planning. (AO1) Technique used to deliver the presentation is sometimes effective. However technical information is not always complete and accurate. (AO3)		The presentation is structured and follows a logical approach in response to the task with evidence of planning. (AO1) Techniques used to deliver the presentation are mostly effective. The technical information provided is accurate most of the time with valid reasoning. (AO3)		The presentation is organised, structured and logical in its approach. It is clear that the presentation content has been considered in terms of its audience. (AO1) Techniques used to deliver the presentation are effective with well justified reasoning behind the information provided. (AO3)	

Grid 11: AO2a Present (Core Knowledge)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Video recording of presentation • Presentation materials (slides, handouts, notes etc) • Presentation Q&A Record (if this cannot be heard on the video) The presentation should cover; consideration of how your design has met the specific issues identified in the project brief, a summary of your proposed design which outlines the key features, challenges presented by the brief and how these have been overcome, how well your design proposal addresses the requirements of the brief, any changes you would make if repeating the project. Audience: technical background		
	Indicative Content	AO2a – Apply core knowledge The candidate’s • judgements in the preparation of the presentation, how well they are reasoned and cover the key features of the conveyor system • interpretation of the challenges within the brief and explanations as to how these have been overcome in the design presented • understanding of engineering principles which has influenced the solution and with reasoning of why these suitably meet the brief from the client for the following features: ○ the appropriate materials used to manufacture the handwash basin, and why they were selected ○ the bought-in filter system chosen ○ the processes that will be used to manufacture the handwash basin ○ the methods of assembly of the handwash basin and fittings, and why they were selected • confidence and accuracy when responding to question from the client (assessor) • use of technical language (with consideration of audience)	AOs (marks)
AO2a (6)			6

Grid 11: AO2a Present (Core Knowledge)					
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Engineering concepts relating to the core knowledge conveyed through the presentation - these may not always be accurate or be directly linked to the brief requirements. (AO2a)		Engineering concepts relating to the core knowledge are coherent throughout the presentation to meet the requirements of the brief set. (AO2a)		Engineering concepts relating to the core knowledge are coherent with clear justifications on how these are applied in response to the brief requirement. (AO2a)	
Terminology used may have inaccuracies and content provided may include inconsistencies and not clear to the target audience. (AO2a)		Terminology used is mostly accurate with minor errors. The content provided is mostly correct but does not always consider the target audience/ may be imbalanced or biased (e.g. to either technical or non-technical focus). (AO2a)		Terminology used is accurate and error free. The content provided is clear and easily understood by the target audience, with no bias in tone/ imbalance across audience type (where appropriate). (AO2a)	

Grid 12: AO2b Present (Core skills)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Video recording of presentation • Presentation materials (slides, handouts, notes etc) • Presentation Q&A Record (if this cannot be heard on the video) The presentation should cover; consideration of how your design has met the specific issues identified in the project brief, a summary of your proposed design which outlines the key features, challenges presented by the brief and how these have been overcome, how well your design proposal addresses the requirements of the brief, any changes you would make if repeating the project. Audience: technical background		
	Indicative Content	AO2b – Application of core skills Core skills being assessed: • Developing responses ○ explanation of how the design has developed throughout the tasks ○ incorporation of the required aspects in the response – use of logical and synergised approach to requirements • Communication and presentation ○ professionalism of presentation resources (slides/presentation methods.) ○ effectiveness in communicating the key features of the design – including fluency, accuracy, clarity and conciseness ○ clarity and size of images and figures, inclusion of labels, font size ○ communicated information accurately to the appropriate target audience • Evaluation and quality assurance ○ justification for final design proposal ○ how well your design meets the requirements of the brief ○ what challenges were overcome ○ improvements that could be made if the project was repeated	AOs (marks)
AO2b (6)			6

Grid 12: AO2b Present (Core skills)					
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Communication of engineering concepts is sometimes effective. The delivery of technical information may lack accuracy and clarity for the target audience. (AO2b)		Engineering concepts are communicated effectively most of the time in an appropriate manner for the target audience. There are minor inaccuracies in the delivery of information which causes a lack of clarity in some instances. (AO2b)		Highly effective communication of engineering concepts is appropriate for the target audience. Technical information is presented accurately and delivered with clarity. (AO2b)	

Grid 13: AO5a, AO5b Present (Realise outcome, review outcome)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Video recording of presentation • Presentation materials (slides, handouts, notes etc) • Presentation Q&A Record (if this cannot be heard on the video) The presentation should cover; consideration of how your design has met the specific issues identified in the project brief, a summary of your proposed design which outlines the key features, challenges presented by the brief and how these have been overcome, how well your design proposal addresses the requirements of the brief, any changes you would make if repeating the project. Audience: technical background		
	Indicative Content	AO5a - realise a project outcome – was the right outcome achieved The candidate’s: • effectiveness in evaluating the challenges presented by the brief and how these have been overcome • identification of which areas of the brief were satisfied or not • reflections on additional aspects of research/design process they could have done, any rework of that would improve/enhance a future project outcome AO5b – review how well the outcome meets the brief, how well the brief was met, the quality of the outcome in relation to the brief The candidate’s: • clarity within their evaluation and review of the challenges of the brief, and indications within the presentation on how these have been overcome • clarity of explanation of how the final design addresses the requirements of the brief, including any features considered by the candidate to be improved • evaluation on ideas relating to how earlier tasks could be built on and indications of reasons why this has happened	AOs (marks)
AO5a (3)			6
AO5b (3)			

Grid 13: AO5a, AO5b Present (Realise outcome, review outcome)					
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Project outcome as a whole partially addresses some of the brief requirements. Articulates some challenges encountered. (AO5a)		Project outcome as a whole address all aspects of the brief requirements. Articulates all challenges encountered and attempts to overcome them. (AO5a)		Project outcome as a whole fully addresses all aspects of the brief requirements and considers alternative options where appropriate. Articulates fully all challenges encountered and comprehensively covers how they were overcome. (AO5a)	
No or minimal reasons and justification in how effectively the brief was met across project tasks. (AO5b)		There is reason and justification in how effectively some areas of the brief were met across project tasks. (AO5b)		Detailed reasoning behind how successfully the project brief was met across project tasks. (AO5b)	

Maths, English and Digital skills

Grid 14: AO4a (Maths)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: - Research Notes – Task 1 - Report – Task 2 - Design - Task 3		
Indicative Content	Task 1: Research The candidate conducts research into potential approaches: - the costs of the materials and components - notes may include rough diagrams/sketches with dimensions and any rough calculations relevant to the brief Task 2: Report The candidate creates a written response to the project brief including: - any calculations relating to the costs of materials and components Task 3: Design – Part A and Part B The candidate must include any relevant design calculations related to their annotated drawing with consideration of: - all calculations used to determine the overall costs of the final design solution - the overall dimensions (size) of the handwash basin - the thickness of the handwash basin with respect to the material selected. - any other calculations used	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
		AO4a (3)	3
Marking descriptors – All versions			

Grid 14: AO4a (Maths)		
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given		
Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor
1	2	3
Limited mathematical concepts and calculations applied. (AO4a) Workings or techniques omitted as part of calculations, assumptions lack detail and full definition. Workings shown but calculation errors made/ inaccurate execution. (AO4a)	A range of mathematical concepts and calculations shown and applied appropriately. (AO4a) Working contains inaccuracies or could be more efficient (i.e. expressed in shorthand). Workings inconsistently shown. (AO4a)	Mathematical approaches and concepts applied fully and consistently. (AO4a) Calculations presented accurately and in correct format, workings shown and evidence of checking to ensure correct results (e.g. estimation workings, reverse calculation checks). (AO4a)

Grid 15: AO4b (English)			
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: • Research notes - Task 1 • Report - Task 2 • Reflective notes - Task 3 • Video of presentation - Task 4 • Presentation materials to support presentation (eg slides etc) - Task 4		
Indicative Content	The candidate's: • use of appropriate and accurate English • clarity and articulateness of use of English to present information and ideas • accuracy of grammar, spelling and punctuation • use of terminology, which is technical and consistent with the intended audience (people from a technical background)	AOs (marks)	Total marks available
		AO4b (3)	3

Grid 15: AO4b (English)			
	confidence in the use of language during verbal presentations, level of articulation and clarity in the delivery of information to summarise information/ideas		
Marking descriptors – All versions			
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given			
Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	
1	2	3	
Evidence within task responses lacks structure where outcome is partially understandable. Communication style is generally appropriate to the outcome but has some inconsistencies across tasks. (AO4b) Meaning is clear, but the language is not always fluent. Grammar and/or spelling contain errors or inconsistencies. Audibility of oral presentation is inconsistent. (AO4b)	Evidence within task responses uses conventional structure which is understandable. Communication style is appropriate to the outcome across most tasks. (AO4b) Meaning is clear, language is fluent, although the response may contain colloquialisms or jargon etc. Grammar and spelling are mainly accurate. Audibility of oral presentation is good. (AO4b)	Evidence within task responses uses a structure which makes it easy to fully understand. Communication style is appropriate to the outcome across all tasks. (AO4b) Meaning is clear, language is fluent and consistent across tasks. Grammar and spelling are consistently accurate across tasks. Deploys a range of grammatical constructions. Audibility of oral presentation is excellent. (AO4b)	

Grid 16: AO4c (Digital)					
Guidance for markers	Only the following evidence must be used to assess performance against this marking grid: - Types of sources used for Research - Task 1 - Report - Task 2 - Drawings - Task 3 - Presentation materials (slides, handouts, notes etc) - Task 4				
Indicative Content	The candidate's: - use of appropriate digital resources to meet task requirements (eg presentation, internet research) - application of features available within digital resources where appropriate (eg formatting, layout, presentation modes, animations/transitions in presentation etc) - delivery of the presentation for task four using appropriate software - range of digital options used across tasks, the extent to which they have been used to add value and their effectiveness of use - use of current digital techniques, resources and sources in adherence with industry practice, convention and trends	AOs (marks)	Total marks available		
		AO4c (3)	3		
Marking descriptors – All versions					
Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given					
Band 1 descriptor		Band 2 descriptor		Band 3 descriptor	
1		2		3	
Digital technology attempted as part of task responses. (AO4c)		Consideration and use of basic digital options / features to strengthen task responses throughout project across tasks. (AO4c)		Digital options applied effectively in line with industry practices / best practice, demonstrating use of range of technology features. Digital techniques used effectively to add value to task responses. (AO4c)	

T-LEVELS

Get in touch

City & Guilds Technicals Quality Team

We are here to answer any queries you may have regarding your T Level Technical Qualification delivery.

Should you require assistance, please contact us using the details below:

T: 0300 303 53 52 (Monday - Friday | 08:30 - 17:00 GMT)

E: technicals.quality@cityandguilds.com

W: cityandguilds.com/tlevels

Copyright in this document belongs to, and is used under licence from, the Department for Education, © 2026.

'T-LEVELS' and 'T Level' are registered trade marks of the Department for Education.

City & Guilds Limited is authorised by the Department for Education to develop and deliver this T Level Technical Qualification.

City & Guilds is a registered trade mark of City & Guilds Limited (Reg No 16513878). City & Guilds, Giltspur House, 5–6 Giltspur Street, London, EC1A 9DE.

