

AQA GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - Exam Guidance 2026/7

- Your GCSE Design and Technology exam will last 2 hours, 100 marks, 50% of your GCSE
- It will be split into three sections:
 - Section A - Core Technical Principles - **Multiple choice and short answer questions**
 - Section B - Specialist Technical Principles - **Long answer questions**
 - Section C - Designing and Making Principles - **Long answer questions and sketching/drawing**

Section A - Core Technical Principles (20 marks)

A range of general Design and Technology questions assessing the breadth of technical knowledge and understanding. You could be asked about **materials and why and where we use them (wood, metal, plastic)**. You may be asked about **levers -Class 1 - seesaw, Class 2 - wheelbarrow, Class 3 - fishing rod.**

B - Specialist Technical Principles (30 marks)

A range of short answer questions and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of Technical Principles. Could be based on manufacturing processes, materials (**timber/wood**), ethics and social issues. Usually a question on the environment.

Section C - Designing and Making Principles (50 marks)

A mixture of short answer and extended response questions. Could be based on a Designer/Company (**Dyson, Primark, etc**), Product Evaluation, Sketching and Drawing. Know specialist terminology (**ACCESS FM**). **Could be a question related to Maths and Science.**