

Sample Design and Technology assessment task

The following task was developed for use at the Term 4 1999 LIG Event that focused on assessment and reporting issues. The task was prepared collaboratively with a practising Design and Technology teacher for use in the context of her particular students and her school. The task was scheduled to occur during Term 2 of the Preliminary course.

Why was this task chosen?

Students are beginning a new design project and are at the stage of initial design ideas. This task will help them to focus, early in the project, on consideration of the short- and long-term consequences for society and the environment of their design decisions. They will use the research gained from this task to develop and refine their design ideas. They should then be able to apply this approach throughout the course, reflecting upon it each time they start a new design project.

A 2-page written report will require students to identify and present only the key information from their more comprehensive research of the issues. The ideas presented by students in the reports will broaden the understandings of social and environmental impact for the other students in the group.

The oral report requires the students to develop and apply communication skills and methods. They will need to apply their research findings to their own project. The feedback provided by the audience will also help the students to refine their ideas.

How will the task be introduced to the class?

Three weeks before the due date students will be issued with the task. The teacher will allocate a period to “unpacking” the task. This will involve reading aloud through the task with the class.

Together the class will brainstorm some possible examples for the task. They will discuss possible ideas or scaffolds for the written and oral reports.

As the conclusion to the lesson, students will reflect on the task by completing a worksheet which requires them to: restate the task in their own words; brainstorm issues related to their own project; identify possible information sources and prepare a time plan.

Student handout: Preliminary course assessment task

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Topic: Environmental and social issues

Assessment task 3

Time allowed: 3 weeks

Due date: **/**/**

Marks: 25

Weighting: 10 %

Outcomes to be assessed

- P2.2 Explains the impact of a range of design and technology activities on the individual, society and the environment through the development of projects.
- P5.2 Communicates ideas and solutions using a range of techniques.
- P5.3 Uses a variety of research methods to inform the development and modification of design ideas.
- P6.2 Evaluates and uses computer-based technologies in designing and producing.

Introduction

Increasingly there is an expectation that designers and producers will be accountable for the impact of their work on society and the environment. Risks can be minimised and products can be enhanced by considering both the short-term and long-term consequences of decisions made throughout the design process.

You are currently developing your ideas for the next design project. For this assessment task you are to identify and research some key social or environmental issues which may relate to your selected area of design. You will be required to present to the class a short paper and oral report about your findings.

In order to undertake this task you will need to:

- brainstorm a range of social and environmental issues which may relate to your selected area of design. These may include:
 - personal values
 - cultural beliefs
 - sustainability
 - safety and health
 - community needs
 - individual needs
 - equity
- consider these broad issues and identify three which are specifically relevant to your project
- research these three issues using a range of methods and sources of information.

You are required to submit for assessment purposes:

1. a 2-page written report

The written report should:

- identify three social or environmental issues which are relevant to the area of your chosen design project
- explain each issue and support your explanation with specific examples of design and production activities which have had an impact on society and the environment
- be presented using appropriate computer software
- be structured in a concise and logical manner
- include a bibliography which references at least five different information sources, including electronic sources.

2. a 3-minute oral report

The oral report should:

- focus on one key issue identified in your written paper
- explain the key issue to the class
- identify the relationship of the issue to your project
- explain how the issue might influence your design decisions
- communicate your findings in a coherent, logical and timely manner
- be appropriate for the audience.

Student mark and feedback sheet

Environmental and social issues	Marks
Student name: _____	
<p>P2.2 Explains the impact of a range of design and technology activities on the individual, society and the environment through the development of projects</p> <p>Written paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifies and explains three social or environmental issues relevant to your project each issue is supported by specific examples of design and production activities which have had an impact on society and the environment. <p>Comment _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Oral report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> explains one key issue to the class identifies the relationship of the issue to your project explains how the issue might influence your design decisions <p>Comment _____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>/6</p> <p>/6</p>
<p>P5.2 Communicates ideas and solutions using a range of techniques</p> <p>Written paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> structured in a concise and logical manner presented in a professional manner. <p>Comment _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Oral report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> communicates findings in an informative, coherent, logical and timely manner has presentation which is interesting to the audience shows student is able to respond to questions and feedback <p>Comment _____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>/2</p> <p>/5</p>
<p>P5.3 Uses a variety of research methods to inform the development and modification of design ideas</p> <p>Written paper and oral report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> information is relevant, accurate and well researched demonstrates a well researched understanding of the issues includes a bibliography which references at least five different information sources, including electronic. <p>Comment _____</p> <p>_____</p>	/4
<p>P6.2 Evaluates and uses computer-based technologies in designing and producing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written paper is professionally presented and computer-generated. Written paper and oral report are based on research which includes electronic sources. <p>Comment _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>TOTAL _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>/2</p> <p>/25</p>