

Moderation Feedback – Central - 2005

Assessment Panel:

Technical Education

Qualification area

**Subject(s) and Level(s)
included in this report**

Technological Studies – Standard Grade

General comments on moderation activity

Assessments from all centres moderated were accepted. In every case, the evidence suggested that candidates had been well prepared for the assignments, the process had been undertaken appropriately and the teachers had applied the assessment criteria properly. In most cases, teachers provided useful information on how they had made their judgements on the evidence. This proved very helpful in the moderation process. Feedback was sent to all centres which were moderated.

Specific issues identified

- 1 The “Application of Technology Assignment” seems to be much easier to manage and assessed than the previous “Problem Solving Project”. Since its introduction, no school has had its internal assessment rejected.
- 2 As mentioned above, the assignments were generally well done and assessed in all of the centres moderated.

Feedback to centres

The Application of Technology Assignments moderated have shown that generally:

- ◆ candidates are being well prepared for the activity
- ◆ they are producing appropriate evidence across all sub-elements
- ◆ the assessment criteria are being applied properly by teachers
- ◆ teachers are making useful and meaningful comments on the flysheet about how they judged the evidence

Teachers comments are useful across all sub-elements but essential for AT3 where marks will be affected by the amount of prompts or corrections needed.

Candidates sometimes struggled with justification of the selection of devices. Appropriate justifications should cover technical issues such as operating conditions, power requirements, compatibility with other devices, input and output signals, etc. It can be comparative, i.e. why one device would be more suitable than another.

Some candidates did not adjust range parameters in their computer simulation (AT5) when it would not have been difficult to do so.

Developing, building, testing and evaluating (AT6 & AT7) should be against measurable criteria and system requirements. These criteria and requirements can be the ones given by the teacher after the candidates have had an attempt at writing their own.