

Design & Technology

AQA A-Level

Paper and board finishing

Materials required for questions

- Pencil
- Rubber
- Calculator

Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen
- Try answer all questions
- Use the space provided to answer questions
- Calculators can be used if necessary
- For the multiple choice questions, circle your answer

Advice

- Marks for each question are in brackets
- Read each question fully
- Try to answer every question
- Don't spend too much time on one question

Good luck!

Q1. What is the primary purpose of laminating paper or board?

- A** To add a metallic finish
- B** To increase thickness and durability
- C** To create raised patterns

Q2. Embossing is a finishing technique that:

- A** Presses a design into the surface to create a raised effect
- B** Uses heat to transfer metallic foil onto the material
- C** Applies a clear protective layer over the entire surface

Q3. Which finishing technique is the opposite of embossing?

- A** Foil blocking
- B** Debossing
- C** Spot varnishing

Q4. What is an advantage of UV varnishing compared to traditional varnishing?

- A** It is only applied to specific areas
- B** It dries instantly under UV light
- C** It creates a metallic finish

Q5. Explain why each of the following finishing techniques have been used **(3 x 2 marks)**



Embossing



Foil blocking



Spot varnishing

Q6. A logo is to be applied to a gift box using either foil blocking or embossing.

Evaluate the suitability of these two processes in terms of:

- aesthetics
- cost
- environmental issues

(6 marks)

Answers

Q1. B

Q2. A

Q3. B

Q4. B

Q5.

Embossing

- Produces a raised design that stands out from the white card. (1 mark)
- Produces a raised design that adds depth to the card and allows for the design to be the same colour as the card without additional printing. (2 marks)

Foil Blocking

- Creates a metallic logo or text on the badge cover. (1 mark)
- Provides aesthetic enhancement to the logo and text by providing contrast with the blue-black base colour of the passport due to its metallic properties. (2 marks)

Spot varnishing

- Produces areas of high gloss over the images and text. (1 mark)
- Adds a high gloss coating to the images and text, improving the aesthetic and accentuating the individual details. (2 marks)

Q6.

Aesthetics:

- Foil blocking adds high quality appearance and contrast to the package.
- Embossing can have ink applied or be left as a 'blind embossing'.
- Embossing gives a subtle aesthetic only visible in certain lighting due to single colour package.
- Embossing gives a tactile effect to the packaging.
- Foil blocking is available in metallic and holographic finishes adding to the quality of the product.

Cost:

- Embossing uses a single material and manufacturing process as it can be done during die cutting, reducing costs.
- Foil blocking adds cost due to adding a second material and adhesive, but this can be offset by the increased retail cost of the product.

Environmental issues:

- Embossed packages can be easily recycled due to the single material use.
- Embossing can be performed on FSC certified papers, and cards.