

# Design & Technology

## AQA A-Level

# Paper and board finishing

### Materials required for questions

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- Pencil
- Rubber
- Calculator

### Instructions

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- 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

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- 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

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Foil blocking

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Spot varnishing

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**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)**

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## Answers

Q1. B

Q2. A

Q3. B

Q4. B

Q5.

Embossing

- Produces a raised snowflake design that stands out from the white card. (1 mark)
- Produces a raised snowflake 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 passport 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.