

# T Level Technical Qualification in Digital Production, Design and Development

## Mark Scheme (Results)

Autumn 2023

Employer Set Project

## General Marking Guidance

- All students must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first student in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Students must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the student's response is not rewardable according to the mark scheme.
- Where judgement is required, a mark scheme will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a student's response, a senior examiner should be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked **unless** the student has replaced it with an alternative response.
- Accept incorrect/phonetic spelling (as long as the term is recognisable) unless instructed otherwise.

## Levels-Based Mark Scheme Guidance

Levels-based mark schemes (LBMS) have been designed to assess students' work holistically. They consist of two parts:

### 1) Indicative content

Indicative content reflects content-related points that a student might make but is not an exhaustive list. Nor is it a model answer. Students may make some or none of the points included in the indicative content as its purpose is as a guide for the relevance and expectation of the responses. Students must be credited for any appropriate response.

### 2) Levels-based descriptors

Each level is made up of a number of traits which when combined together articulate the quality of response that a student needs to demonstrate. The traits progress across the levels to demonstrate the different expectations of each level. When using a levels-based mark scheme, the 'best fit' approach should be used.

## Applying the levels-based descriptors

Examiners should take a 'best fit' approach to determining the mark.

- Examiners should first make a holistic judgement on which level most closely matches the student's response. Students will be placed in the level that best describes their answer. Answers can display characteristics from more than one level, and where this happens markers must use any additional guidance (e.g. weighting of traits) and their professional judgement to decide which level is most appropriate.
- The mark awarded within the level will be decided based on the quality of the answer and will be modified according to how securely all traits are displayed at that level:
  - Marks will be awarded at the top of that level if the student has evidenced each of the descriptor traits securely.
  - Where the response does not securely meet all traits, the marks should be awarded based on how closely the descriptor has been met.

## Task 1 - Planning a project

### Indicative content and marker guidance

#### Gantt chart:

- Expect to see tasks broken down into smaller chunks where sensible for example:
  - May show use of an Agile approach (or similar)
  - Large modules (e.g. backend database, data analysis, etc.) broken down into multiple sections of development and unit testing with logical resources being applied to tasks - look out for learners applying the same developer to test the modules - can be ok if justified through testing experience.
  - When splitting tasks learners should show an understanding of how total development hours should be split between the team working on it
  - A task related to implementation of their choice of **cloud or physical servers** should be seen here - the plan should only account for one or other, not both.
- There should be sensible use of concurrent and serial tasks for example:
  - Logical task sequences, e.g. server setup/installed before modules deployed, unit testing before integration testing.
  - Showing that as one unit is being tested, development could be taking place with other team members.
  - Integration testing would be expected after specific modules have been unit tested.
  - At the higher end, expect to see consideration around the testing time for each module and how this could be split up to allow testing along with other modules.
  - Possible to see an Agile approach on a granular level, e.g. per module as well as the project as a whole.
  - Should show some awareness of the requirements of tasks having predecessor requirements.
- There is no single correct way to organise the plan, but task orders should be sensible, for example 'create a test plan' should occur BEFORE testing commences, staff training would occur much later in the process when the system is nearer completion, etc.
- The order and implementation of the project may vary significantly depending on the SDLC approach that they are taking (check against learner rationale). For example:
  - a RAD/Agile that looks at a minimum viable product (MVP). They may 'deploy' some of the modules very early on, after a short portion of development time, and then test and develop further, deploying more modules as they go.
  - Or they may decide that their approach is to have most modules mostly developed and then deployed and tested later.

The rationale will show the reasoning for the chosen project development approach demonstrated in the Gantt chart. Points learners may consider, although some of these will vary depending on the choices learners make in terms of organisation. These include but are not limited to:

- Staff (skills, industry expertise, experience)
  - The Senior Software Engineer (Ezekiel Blair) has worked on large-scale projects and is an experienced team leader - expect to see developing 'critical'/complex modules and supporting junior developers where appropriate.
  - The Junior Software Engineer (Nieve Calhoun) has a number of years' experience creating web-based products. Good grasp of required languages for this type of project less experience but has some clear experience around staff development and UI development. Has a wide range of skills so could be used in a flexible way.
  - Junior Software Engineer (Sulaiman Gallegos) good level of experience and has worked with the Senior SW Engineer previously.
  - Web Development Engineer (Filip Munoz) Full stack trained so provides a wide range of front-end and back-end skills. Could be utilized across many different modules. Has experience with projects in the financial and banking sector so should have good awareness of data security/privacy.
  - The Hardware and Networking Technician (Eliso Smits) Very experienced in a number of sectors.
  - Cloud Systems Architect (Klement Shepard) wide range of experience. Skilled in front-end and back-end development - could be used in a flexible manner on a range of different modules.
  - Testing should be allocated to members of staff in a sensible manner - in some cases, in learner work, testers could be allocated on the basis that they are the developer - in some cases other members can be used to free up developers to start producing other modules - look to see how this is justified in the rationale.
- Resources
  - Learners should rationalise the choice of allocation of tasks to different members of staff (see above).
  - A justification of which server option they opt for - with reference to needing to employ additional staff or not, cost, etc.
  - Though costings vary - should show some logical methods used to calculate.

- Timescales and costs
  - Students should identify if they made the deadline or not.
  - The project tasks listed equal a total approx. 881 hours depending on the server chosen, this does not include any consideration of slack/contingency time.
  - “Total hours” for the project is simply the total work hours. The total hours does not directly convert to the number of days the project will take. There should be consideration of:
    - which jobs can only be done by specific individuals and how these work alongside/conflict with other tasks.
    - splitting of jobs between suitable team members
    - contingency time.
  - More contingency time may be needed on jobs performed by the junior staff members/senior members assigned to oversee work.
  - Students should discuss the cost of their solution with reference to how these costs were arrived at, and if the projected costs and increase in revenue make the project feasible - showing awareness that the project benefits will be seen over a number of years. They may consider:
    - Neither of the server options make a significant difference overall, but cloud saves money in the **current** year.
    - Staffing costs would vary depending on who is assigned to what however cost of wages for the project will be around £60,000 - £70,000 and other resource costs are approximately £65000 depending on which server option is chosen.
    - Learners should also include the current ongoing costs (£139, 980) in their calculations.
    - Based on the predictions provided increases in INCOME in first three years would be Yr1 174545, year2 178341 and year 3 180618
    - The project would most likely result in a loss in the current year. Expect this to be taken into consideration in the next years calculations.
  - Students could look to justify using less experienced members of staff in order to keep costings down, though mitigation (e.g. overview by the senior member of staff, more time to allow for development) and rationale should be considered.
- Risks
  - Senior Software Engineer previously worked in the entertainment sector - depending on the projects this may mean that he does not have experience with this type of system and its related data.
  - Junior Software Engineer (Nieve Calhoun) very experienced in the field but never work for the company before so could be an unknown quantity. Has been working as an independent developer so it is unknown how they perform as part of a team.
  - Web Development Engineer is an independent contractor so may not fit into line management well. Quality etc. may be unknown.
  - Hardware and Networking Technician - only worked on small scale projects previously.
  - Cloud Systems Architect - previously working as a software developer so back-end skills may be rusty which could lead to more issues/faults than anticipated.
  - Discussion of the relevant risks of a purely cloud deployed system vs the physical and the risks associated with employing an in-house technician.
  - Timescale consideration around getting the project completed on time.



Assessment focus	Band 0	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3
	0	1-2	3-4	5-6
Gantt chart	No rewardable material	<p>Project tasks are somewhat organised in logical and efficient manner making some use of an appropriate SDLC model to provide some accurate prediction of the project's timescales.</p> <p>Resources have sometimes been assigned to project tasks effectively but there are some major and/or significant errors or omissions.</p>	<p>Project tasks are organised in a mostly logical and efficient manner making use of an appropriate SDLC model to provide mostly accurate predictions of the project's timescales.</p> <p>Resources have mostly been assigned to the project tasks effectively, but there are some minor errors or omissions.</p>	<p>Project tasks are organised in a thoroughly logical and efficient manner using an appropriate SDLC model to provide thoroughly accurate predictions of the project's timescales.</p> <p>Resources have consistently been assigned to the project tasks effectively.</p>
	0	1	2-3	4
Resource and cost plan		Some correct resources and accurate costs have been added to the plan resulting in an estimate of limited accuracy.	Mostly correct resources and accurate costs have been added to the plan resulting in an estimate that is largely accurate.	Fully correct resources and accurate costs have been added to the plan resulting in an accurate estimate.
	0	1-3	4-6	7-9
Rationale	No rewardable material	<p>Rationale for project planning decisions demonstrate some effective consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cost, risks and benefits</li> <li>order and timing of tasks</li> <li>selection and allocation of resources</li> <li>dependencies and prerequisites.</li> </ul>	<p>Rationale for project planning decisions demonstrate mostly effective consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cost, risks and benefits</li> <li>order and timing of tasks</li> <li>selection and allocation of resources</li> <li>dependencies and prerequisites.</li> </ul>	<p>Rationale for project planning decisions demonstrate a thorough and perceptive consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cost, risk and benefits</li> <li>order and timing of tasks</li> <li>selection and allocation of resources</li> <li>dependencies and prerequisites.</li> </ul>

## Task 2 - Identifying and fixing defects in an existing code

Indicative content and marker guidance		
Line number & Error category	Description of error	Possible fix
Line 7 Minor Error	Missing colon at end of line <pre>def get_dog_size(dog_size)</pre>	<pre>def get_dog_size(dog_size):</pre>
35 Major error	Does not check correct index <pre>size = options[choice]</pre>	<pre>size = options[choice-1]</pre>
Line 88 Major error	Logic of if statement returns the wrong tuple <pre>if food == "wet":     qty = (180, 350, 520) else:     qty = (400, 800, 1200)</pre>	<pre>if food == "dry":     qty = (180, 350, 520) else:     qty = (400, 800, 1200)</pre>
Line 101 and 103 Major error	Incorrect values: <pre>if food == "dry":     per_100g = 30 else:     per_100g = 40</pre>	<pre>if food == "dry":     per_100g = 0.3 else:     per_100g = 0.4</pre>
Line 125 Major error	Incorrect operator <pre>est_yearly_food = daily_cost / 365</pre>	<pre>est_yearly_food = daily_cost * 365</pre>
Line 130 Minor error	Incorrect formatting charcter in output <pre>l cost £{} \nper month ".format(est_monthly_food)</pre>	<pre>print("It is estimated that food for this dog will cost £{} per month ".format(est_monthly_food))</pre>
139 Minor Error	Typo in name of passed paramater <pre>size = get_dog_size(dog_siz)</pre>	<pre>size = get_dog_size(dog_size)</pre>
Lines 130 – 134 Minor error	Output will not be appropriate (i.e. not 2.d.p as currency. <pre>\nper month ".format(est_monthly_food)) per year ".format(est_yearly_food) g vaccination) will be £{} per year ".format(total_inc_vax)</pre>	<pre>month ".format(round(est_monthly_food, 2)) ear ".format(round(est_yearly_food, 2)) cination) will be £{} per year ".format(round(total_inc_vax, 2))</pre>



The test plan/log should also contain inclusion of tests that show how a range of aspects of the program have been tested, including areas of the program that appear to be coded correctly have been tested to ensure outputs are correct and the program is robust. These may include (but not limited to):

- Using different combinations of dog size, activity levels and food type to check accuracy of calculations.
- Non-numerical values for menu options
- Numbers for menu options that sit outside of the given range and at the boundaries of the range.
- Checking menu options return the correct item to test indexing.
- Checking the formatting of the output.

A limited understanding of program requirements would be typified by only identifying and fixing the minor errors that would be highlighted by the IDE but would not identify and fix significant/major errors.

The number of errors identified is not a hurdle between Bands 2 and 3 for the first two assessment focus, the discriminator is the quality and appropriateness of the tests and data selected, and the level of understanding shown of the **process**.

**Note** - The suggested fixes are for guidance only, credit alternative solutions that are logically correct and would produce the correct/required outcomes.

Assessment focus	Band 0	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3
	0	1-2	3--5	6-8
Use of testing to identify defects	No rewardable material	<p>Tests selected show a basic understanding of the identified program requirements.</p> <p>Test log includes some appropriate test data.</p> <p>Testing has identified some error in the code provided.</p>	<p>Tests selected show a good understanding of the identified program requirements.</p> <p>Test log includes a good a range of normal, erroneous and extreme data.</p> <p>Testing has identified most errors in the code provided.</p>	<p>Tests selected show a thorough and detailed understanding of the identified program requirements.</p> <p>Test log includes a comprehensive range of normal, erroneous and extreme data.</p> <p>Testing has comprehensively identified the errors in the code provided.</p>
		1	2-3	4
Understanding of the testing process		<p>Test log shows a basic understanding of how errors/problems were identified and how they were rectified.</p>	<p>Test log shows a good understanding of how errors/problems were identified and how they were rectified.</p>	<p>Test log shows a thorough and detailed understanding of how errors/problems were identified and how they were rectified.</p>
		1-3	4-6	7-9
The solution		<p>Code has some functionality, but significant errors still persist.</p> <p>Changes made apply some precise logic and programming structures which would result in some correct outcomes.</p>	<p>Code is mostly functional, but some minor errors still persist.</p> <p>Changes made apply mostly precise logic and programming structures which would result in mostly correct outcomes.</p>	<p>Code is fully functional.</p> <p>Changes to code apply fully precise logic and programming structures throughout which would result in consistently correct outcomes.</p>



### Task 3 - Designing a solution

#### Indicative content and marker guidance

##### General guidance

- Algorithm designs should demonstrate decomposition of the problem into simpler and more understood primitives.
- The design should provide high level coverage of the process as well as identify **reusable components**.
- Detailed algorithms (pseudocode) do not need to be provided for ALL repeated processes. For example, if the process for calculating average likes, comments and shares is very similar, the learner would not need to provide algorithms for each post type, rather they should show how **reusable** code would make use of appropriate efficient use of passed variables. The learner may provide some additional annotation to explain the process as necessary.
- Good decomposition will show all the necessary processes and sub-processes that make up the main problem.
- A decomposition diagram is not required, decomposition should be demonstrated through detail and process break down in the flowcharts or pseudocode.

Some general characteristics of a good algorithm that may be demonstrated are:

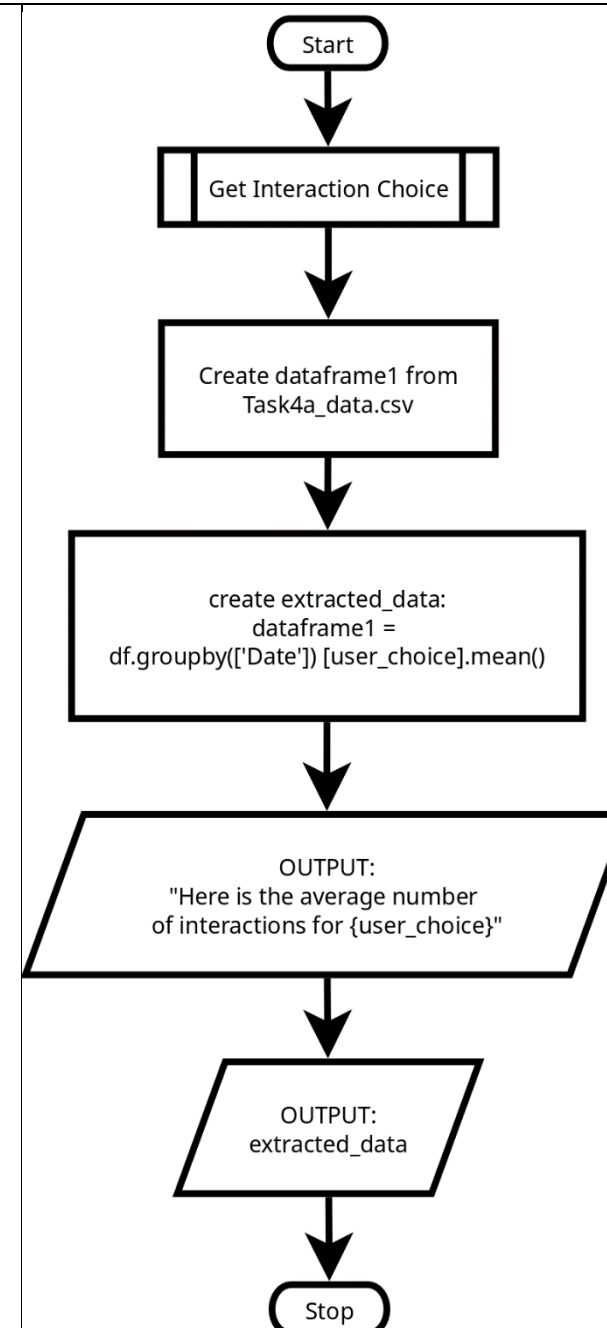
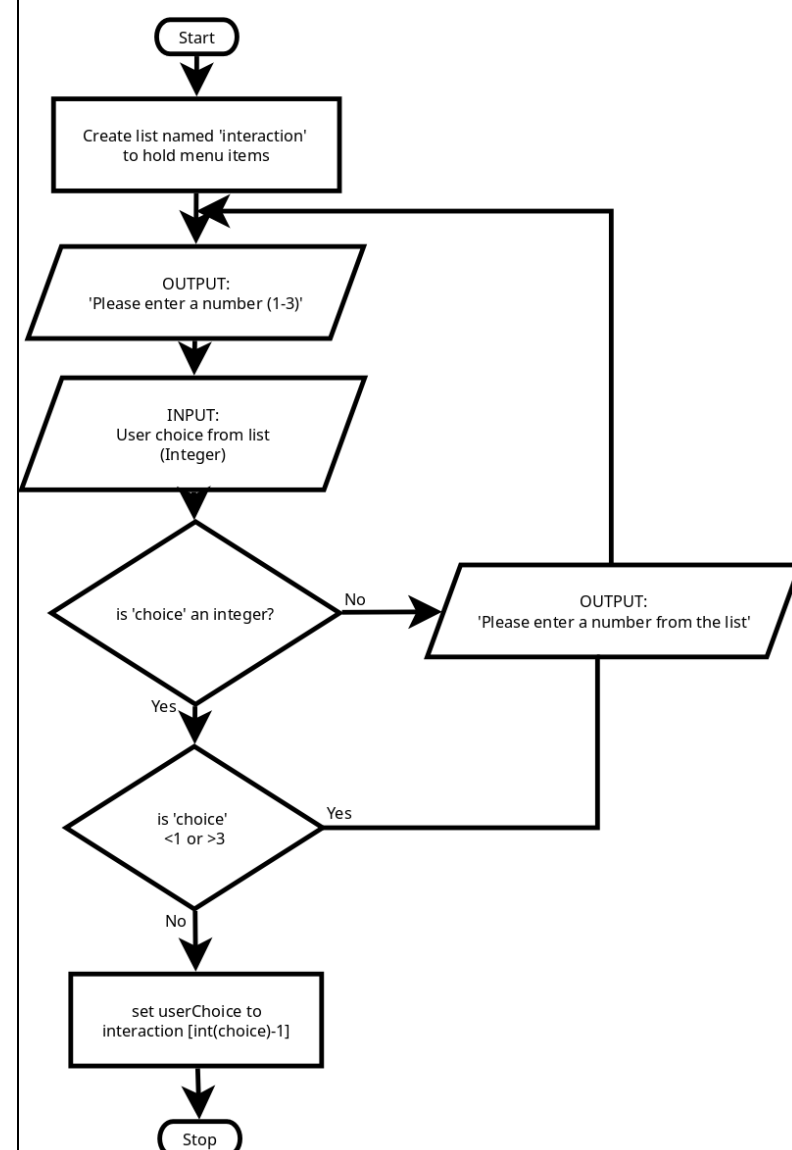
- the steps are clearly defined.
- each step is uniquely defined and should depend on the input and the result of the preceding steps.
- receives input, selection of type of audience interaction, input coding for usability may also be considered.
- produces appropriate type of output (e.g. screen display, return value or return list), which results are required, what happens if no results can be computed (e.g. an error message)
- sensible naming conventions for variables and processes
- use of key words, symbols, hierarchies, and structures as appropriate to the chosen method to represent the algorithm (i.e. pseudocode or flow chart).

Scenario specific characteristics may include:

- suitable logic and calculations to group each day and calculate the average for the select interaction type.
- Checking user input of a specific date and validating it or checking it exists in the data set.
- Allowing user to select which interaction type they wish to see.
- links to CSV to get data.
- sensible use of CSV or run-time data structure (e.g. data frame) to hold different parts of the data for processing, e.g. new data frame to hold data for a selected date / date range to aid calculations.
- understanding of given data such as:
  - use of header row in CSV to locate required data.
  - need to convert dates to a usable date format.
- simplification for user, e.g. choose a number from menu rather than type the interaction type in full.

### Example flow chart algorithms

#### Get user choice for type of interaction required



Example detailed psuedocode algorithms for repeated processes:

Note - these are intended to be indicative of the types of algorithms that may be presented. These **do not** show all processes. Accept any responses that provide logically correct outcomes/solutions

<p><b>Get and validate average menu choice</b></p> <pre> WHILE not_valid_input_flag = TRUE      SEND "Please enter type of interaction you wish to see data for" TO DISPLAY      SET interaction TO ["Likes", "Shares", "Comments"]      RECEIVE choice (integer) FROM KEYBOARD      IF choice choice NOT integer THEN:          SEND 'That is not a valid choice' TO DISPLAY          SET not_valid_input_flag TO TRUE      ELSE IF depart_choice &lt;1 OR &gt;3 THEN:          SEND 'That is not a valid choice' TO DISPLAY          SET not_valid_input_flag TO TRUE      ELSE:          SET avg_men_choice TO interaction [int(avg_men_choice)-1]  RETURN avg_men_choice         </pre>	<p><b>Get and validate date - CAST to date format</b></p> <pre> SET non_valid_flag TO TRUE  while flag == TRUE      SEND "Please enter the date youwish to see data for (DD/MM/YYYY) TO DISPLAY      RECEIVE input (STRING) FROM KEYBOARD      try:          SET input(STRING) TO input(DATETIME)      except:          SEND "Sorry, you did not enter a valid date" TO DISPLAY         flag = True      else:          SET date TO input(DATETIME)  RETURN date         </pre>	<p><b>Get average on date and interaction</b></p> <pre> FUNCTION get_data( avg_men_choice, date)  BEGIN FUNCTION      data_frame1 = pd.read_csv("Task4a_data.csv")      extracted_data = data_frame1['Date'] == date &amp; dataframe1 [avg_men_choice]      average = avg_men_choice.mean()      SEND ("Here is the data for the selected date:") TO DISPLAY      SEND (extracted_data) TO DISPLAY      SEND ("The average number of [avg_men_choice]) was:") TO DISPLAY      SEND (average) TO DISPLAY  END FUNCTION         </pre>
---	---	--

Assessment focus	Band 0	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3
	0	1-2	3-5	6-8
Decomposition of the problem	No rewardable material	Basic or superficial decomposition of the identified problems that superficially cover the required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>inputs</li> <li>processes</li> <li>outputs.</li> </ul>	Mostly detailed decomposition of the identified problems that sufficiently cover the required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>inputs</li> <li>processes</li> <li>outputs.</li> </ul>	Thorough and detailed decomposition of the identified problems that comprehensively cover the required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>inputs</li> <li>processes</li> <li>outputs.</li> </ul>
		1-2	3-4	5-6
Application of logical thinking and conventions		Algorithms would produce some correct outcomes as a result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>some precise logic</li> <li>some appropriate structure and sequence which is likely to be inefficient.</li> </ul> Some use of accepted conventions.	Algorithms would produce mostly correct outcomes as a result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mostly precise logic</li> <li>appropriate structure and sequence but which may lack efficiency.</li> </ul> Mostly appropriate use of accepted conventions though some minor inconsistencies may still exist.	Algorithms would produce correct outcomes as a result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>precise logic</li> <li>appropriate and efficient structure and sequence.</li> </ul> Appropriate and consistent use of accepted conventions.
		1	2	3
Communication of the design		Superficial communication of the design uses technical language which is only sometimes appropriate for the audience.	Adequate communication of the design uses technical language which is mostly appropriate for the audience.	Effective communication of the design uses technical language which is appropriate for the audience.

## Task 4a - Developing the solution

### Indicative content and marker guidance

#### The solution

- Provides a developed coded solution that utilises the given code and adds the additional functionality as stated in the requirements.
- Integration of existing code may include:
  - ‘import’ function to pull code as a whole in when needed (note given code and learner code will need to be in the same folder)
  - integration into learner’s own code base as a function
  - adding additional functions to the given code file
- The solution will be well structured and modular in nature - with clear subsections, this may be separated modules or the use of procedures, functions, or classes.
- Code will be annotated to aid future maintenance of the system.
- Data/information should be output in a meaningful way to the user. This may include use of a data frame, graph and/or text-based summary.
- Output data should show how interaction with social media posts over time, but this may be interpreted in slightly different ways. Such as:
  - higher level responses will make better use of patterns and trends over time and allow the user to select date ranges and specific post types or user interaction types. Data will be presented in a clear way that aids the user’s understanding.
  - Lower level responses may only extract information as a whole from the csv file, date selections may be hardcoded and not allow user specific entries. They may not include any calculation resulting in limited meaningful information for the user.
  - learners make use of tabulated formats or graphs to display this information in a clearer way.
  - where lower level responses extract some meaningful information may only output in an unsorted fashion or may not give the user sufficient choice.
- There are different ways that this task can be interpreted so the characteristics of higher level responses will show a greater discrimination of the data to be extracted, and consideration of how it is presented to the user.
- Code should be robust, typical errors that may be accounted for in this scenario include negative values, non-numerical characters, entering a choice not provided in the menu.

#### Possible areas included that contribute to ‘user experience’:

- Outputs are meaningful and make sense to the user, e.g. outputs are accompanied by meaningful text to contextualise them.
- Simplification of input processes e.g. use of numbers in a menu rather than writing text-based responses.
- User input converted from string to a usable date format.
- Potential issue of difference between input date format and date format of imported data solved (e.g. “dayfirst = True”)
- Creation of new columns in a data frame to calculate averages number of posts, totals for each type of post etc.
- Use of visualisation, e.g. graphs comparing different post types
- Helpful messages and robust input handling.

#### Security consideration relating to the solutions could include:

- Avoiding global variables, passing data back from functions
- Avoiding the use of a single generated data frame to ensure security of the data - good practice to generate a new data frame within a function.
- Error handling: If the system crashes, is any data returned in the error message?

#### Example code snippets for parts of the solution:

Note - these are intended to be indicative of the types of response that may be presented. These **do not** show all processes. Accept any responses that provide logically correct outcomes/solutions.

***T-LEVELS***



**Institute for Apprenticeships  
& Technical Education**



User menu to select average number of interactions based on type of post.

```
def average_menu ():
    flag = True

    while flag:

        print("#####")
        print("##### Average Interaction #####")
        print("#####")
        print("")
        print("##### Please select an option #####")
        print("### 1. Average number of Likes")
        print("### 2. Average number of Shares")
        print("### 3. Average number of Comments")

        choice = input('Enter your number selection here: ')

        try:
            int(choice)
        except:
            print("Sorry, you did not enter a valid option")
            flag = True
        else:
            print('Choice accepted!')
            flag = False

    return choice

def convert_avg_men_coice(avg_men_choice):

    if avg_men_choice == "1":
        avg_choice = "Likes"
    elif avg_men_choice == "2":
        avg_choice = "Shares"
    else:
        avg_choice = "Comments"

    return avg_choice
```

Calculating total based on type of post chosen

```
def most_menu_option():
    df = pd.read_csv("Task4a_data.csv")
    extract_most = df.groupby(['Post Type'], as_index=False) ['Likes', 'Shares', 'Comments'].sum()
    extract_most_no_index = extract_most.to_string(index=False)

    return extract_most_no_index
```

Getting user input (date) and converting form a string to datetime

```
def get_date1():

    flag = True

    while flag:
        date1 = input('Plese enter start date for your time range (DD/MM/YYYY): ')

        try:
            pd.to_datetime(date1)
        except:
            print("Sorry, you did not enter a valid date")
            flag = True
        else:
            return pd.to_datetime(date1, dayfirst=True)
```

Extracting and displaying data based on a user selected data range. And calculating the total number of interactions.

```
def get_interactions_by_date(start_date, end_date):

    df1 = pd.read_csv("Task4a_data.csv")

    df1["Date"] = pd.to_datetime(df1["Date"], dayfirst=True)

    results = df1.loc[(df1["Date"] >= start_date) & (df1["Date"] <= end_date)]

    extract_DT = results.groupby(['Time'], as_index=False) ['Likes', 'Shares', 'Comments'].sum()
    extract_DT_no_index = extract_DT.to_string(index=False)
    print("Here is the data for the date range {} to {}".format(start_date, end_date))
    print("It shows the total likes, shares and comments during that period, based on each key time category")
    return extract_DT_no_index
```

Assessment focus	Band 0	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4
	0	1-2	3-4	5-6	
Functionality	No rewardable material	The solution implements code with some functionality but some major errors still persist.	The solution implements mostly functional code but code may lack efficiency and some minor errors still persist.	The solution implements functional and efficient code throughout.	
		1	2	3	
Logic and programming structures		The code uses some precise logic and programming structures which would result in some correct outcomes.	The code uses mostly precise logic and programming structures which would result in sufficiently correct outcomes.	The code uses precise logic and programming structures throughout which would result in consistently correct outcomes.	
		1	2	3	
Robustness		The code handles some common user errors.	The code handles most common user errors.	The code thoroughly handles common, and most unexpected, user errors.	
		1-2	3-4	5-6	
Security		The code mitigates against some common vulnerabilities as a result of some effective application of secure coding practices.	The code mitigates against most relevant vulnerabilities through mostly effective application of secure coding practices.	The code thoroughly mitigates against relevant vulnerabilities through effective application of secure coding practices.	
		1-2	3-4	5-6	
Code organisation		The code is partially maintainable by a third party but would present significant difficulties through the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>inconsistent naming conventions</li> <li>limited logical organisation</li> <li>limited informative commenting.</li> </ul>	The code is partially maintainable by a third party but would present some minor difficulties through the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>some consistent naming conventions</li> <li>some logical organisation</li> <li>some informative commenting.</li> </ul>	The code is maintainable by a third party and would present only a few minor difficulties through the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mostly consistent naming conventions</li> <li>mostly logical organisation</li> <li>mostly informative commenting.</li> </ul>	The code is easily maintainable by a third party through the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>consistent and appropriate naming conventions</li> <li>fully logical organisation</li> <li>highly informative commenting.</li> </ul>
					7-8



	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8
User experience	<p>Basic user experience is provided through limited effective use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>input handling</li> <li>user guidance and error messages</li> <li>outputs.</li> </ul>	<p>Adequate user experience is provided through somewhat effective use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>input handling</li> <li>user guidance and error messages</li> <li>outputs.</li> </ul>	<p>Good user experience is provided through mostly effective use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>input handling</li> <li>user guidance and error messages</li> <li>outputs.</li> </ul>	<p>Excellent user experience is provided through consistently effective use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>input handling</li> <li>user guidance and error messages</li> <li>outputs.</li> </ul>

## Task 4b - Reflective evaluation

### Indicative content and marker guidance

Indicative content will vary according to the approach learners have taken in Task 4a and the effectiveness of the solution they created.

Generic features of effective evaluations are likely to include:

- the extent to which the solution meets the:
  - requirements of the Set Task Brief
  - needs of the users
- a justification of how the solution could be further developed/enhanced.
- specific examples from the solution to support points made.
- contextualisation of any points made and explaining what they did and justifying why.

Contextualisation for this scenario may include:

- How they solved issues with date formats vs strings
- How they considered 'most interactions' e.g. sum() vs avg.
- Consideration of how they processed information for different times of the day
- Choice of data output (e.g. text, table, graph type) - which is most suitable for showing numbers and types of post.
- How the brief was interpreted - such as how 'different types of post perform at different times of the day' was integrated into the functionality of the program, e.g. were different times, days and posts compared, was the user able to choose different combinations of the these from a list?
- How existing code was integrated.
- Choice of libraries/functions to get required data.
- How data was extracted (e.g. use directly from the csv file, use of subsets of data, how the choice of data frame or datafile impacted on search/extraction)
- Use of variables (global vs local, passing data between functions)
- Input error handling, e.g. why they might have excluded text or negative values, menu options, etc.

Assessment focus	Band 0	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3
	0	1-2	3-4	5-6
Programming outcomes	No rewardable material	Judgements reached are somewhat supported showing a superficial or basic understanding of how well the solution met the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>requirements of the set task brief</li><li>needs of the users.</li></ul>	Judgements reached are mostly well supported showing a good understanding of how well the solution met the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>requirements of the set task brief</li><li>needs of the users.</li></ul>	Judgements reached are comprehensively well supported showing a thorough and detailed understanding of how well the solution met the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>requirements of the set task brief</li><li>needs of the users.</li></ul>
		1	2	3
Future Developments		A superficial or simplistic rationale is provided for what future developments should be implemented.	A good rationale which is reasonably well supported is provided for what future developments should be implemented.	A convincing and well-supported rationale is provided for what future developments should be implemented.

‘T-LEVELS’ is a registered trade mark of the Department for Education.  
‘T Level’ is a registered trade mark of the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education.  
The T Level Technical Qualification is a qualification approved and managed by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education.  
‘Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education’ and logo are registered trade marks of the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education.  
Pearson Education Limited is authorised by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education to develop and deliver this Technical Qualification.  
All the material in this publication is copyright © Pearson Education Limited 2024