

**442/3/ Inst. Sc./SG
ART AND DESIGN
Paper 3
PROJECT
January – July 2026**



**THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education
ART AND DESIGN
Paper 3
PROJECT**

INSTRUCTIONS TO SCHOOLS

These instructions outline the procedures for administering the 2D and 3D Art and Design projects. They are accompanied by a comprehensive scoring guide that provides clear assessment criteria and indicators. The scoring guide is designed to support consistent and objective marking of the project, which should be conducted continuously and aligned to the specified milestones. Assessment should focus on the process, including planning, creativity, technique and progressive execution rather than solely on the final product.

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- 1.1** The instructions for the 2D Art and Design project will be uploaded by **5th January**, and those for the 3D project will be uploaded by **1st April**. Upon release, the school principal and the Art and Design teacher should review the project guidelines together and agree on the logistics, resource requirements, and the mode of implementation.
 - 1.2** The question paper should be issued to candidates immediately upon receipt, and candidates should begin their projects at once. The Art teacher should
 - Discuss the required materials with both the candidates and the school administration.
 - Ensure all necessary materials are available in time.
 - Print and distribute the instructions, tasks and scoring guides to all candidates.
 - Supervise the process to ensure that each candidate completes the project individually and without assistance.

- 1.3 Each candidate will study the task(s), conceptualize and develop an implementation work plan. The candidate should keep this write up in his or her project portfolio. In instances where candidates have taken photographs, videos or audio recordings as they work, these can be uploaded in an ePortfolio created in the **school computers** or on CD, to show progress, as record of each candidate’s work and should be accessible during monitoring.
- 1.4 Each candidate must maintain a record of their 2D and 3D project progress at all stages. This portfolio will serve as evidence of performance across the key milestones outlined below:
- 1.4.1 **Preparation:** Candidates should research and explore the subject matter using dated sketches, drawings, and paintings on A3 paper. Photography, video, or audio may be used to capture references and may be submitted in CD format without printing. Copying or tracing is not allowed. Any external images used must be acknowledged, and pasting downloaded pictures is discouraged.
- 1.4.2 **Development:** Candidates should explore and refine the ideas generated during the preparation stage. Work must show logical progression, documented clearly on A3 sheets and stored in the portfolio. Continuous self-critique should guide decisions on next steps.
- 1.4.3 **Realization:** This milestone follows on from **development** and **preparation**. Candidates select appropriate materials, tools, and techniques to create the final 2D and 3D artwork, building on the preparation and development stages.
- 1.5 The milestones outlined will guide the monitoring and scoring of all project tasks. Each milestone has a specific timeline for completion during project implementation. *Note:* Milestones 1 and 2 for both 2D and 3D projects will be uploaded at different times, as shown in the table below. Record all scores in the provided assessment sheet and upload them once the project portal is opened.
- 1.6 The Art teacher will be required to mark the projects as per the given scoring guide and key in the marks online through the following website; www.knec-portal.ac.ke The portal can also be accessed through the KNEC Website: www.knec.ac.ke then access the School Portal tab. Login instructions are already with schools.
- 1.7 The candidate’s scores and evidence for 2D and 3D projects on the **two** critical milestones will be keyed and photographs uploaded as indicated in the table below:

SUBJECT	UPLOADING OF 2D PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS TO SCHOOLS ON KNEC PORTAL	2D CANDIDATE PREPARATION/ DEVELOPMENT MILESTONE I	2D REALIZATION MILESTONE II	UPLOADING OF 3D PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS TO SCHOOLS ON KNEC PORTAL	3D CANDIDATE PREPARATION/ DEVELOPMENT MILESTONE I	3D REALIZATION MILESTONE II
ART AND DESIGN	By 5 th January, 2026	Schools score by 27 th February, 2026 (Record scores in assessment sheet provided out of 12)	*Schools score, record in assessment sheet (out of 8) upload scores by 31 st March, 2026 out of 20 *KNEC monitors by the end of term I	By 1 st April, 2026	Schools score by 30 th June, 2026 (Record scores in assessment sheet provided out of 12)	*Schools score, record in assessment sheet (out of 8) and upload scores by 30 th July, 2026 out of 20 *KNEC monitors by the end of term II

- 1.8 The evidence uploaded with the scores will be a photograph of the project status at the time the last score was awarded. The photograph will capture the candidates alongside their work which must be clearly labelled and be in either JPEG (.jpg) or Graphics Interchange Format (.gif).
- 1.9 The KNEC project portal will only be accessible within the specified period when the scores and evidence are supposed to be keyed and uploaded. Once the period elapses, the portal will NOT be accessible. **NOTE the changes on uploading of scores highlighted in the table**
- 1.10 The following documents duly signed and stamped should be submitted to the Sub-County Director of Education (SCDE) by the **first week of 3rd term**. The SCDE will then submit the records to KNEC.
- i. Printed score sheet(s)
 - ii. Manual Assessment score sheet(s)
 - iii. Submission form(s)

2.0 MATERIALS AND TOOLS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT EXAMINATION

The information contained in this table is to enable the Principal and the Art and Design teacher make adequate preparations for this year's KCSE Art and Design 2D project examination. The items listed below are a basic guide to budgeting materials and tools required to carry out the project. **Re use of old / found materials is encouraged.**

Q 1 Materials	Quantity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD 	1 CD per candidate	Candidates to source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water colours (assorted) water colour pencils 	Packet(s) of 12 tubes depending on candidature	Candidates to share
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhesive 	1000ml can be shared	School to provide
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assorted brushes 		Candidates to source
Q 2	Quantity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water colours (assorted) water colour pencils 	Packet(s) of 12 tubes depending on candidature	Candidates to share
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stiff but flexible paper 	Size 7.5 cm × 13 cm × 40 pieces per candidate	Candidates to source
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assorted brushes 		Candidates to source

3.0 MILESTONES: ASSESSMENT RUBRIC AND SCORING GUIDE

MILESTONE I JAN-FEB 2026		DEADLINE	MARKS	TOTALS
PORTFOLIO – 12 MARKS	1. PREPARATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary sketches & drawings on bound A3 paper or in a drawing book (<i>each sketch clearly dated with the date when it was made</i>) • Detailed support studies related to the subject matter. • Research notes informing the concept and direction of work 	JANUARY	02 02 01	05
	2. DEVELOPMENT Interpretation and Composition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated originality, imagination and creativity in interpreting the subject matter. • Logical development of ideas through processes including <i>drawings, thumbnail sketches, colour trials/ separations, painting, shading etc</i> • Documentation of work in progress using photographs or videos submitted on CD where applicable • Exploration of visual ideas by manipulating images, materials and prototypes (models). 	FEBRUARY	02 02 01 02	07
MILESTONE II MARCH 31 st 2026			MARKS	TOTAL
FINAL ARTWORK - 08 MARKS	3. REALIZATION Execution of the Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution skill: effective use of techniques, tools and materials • Functionality: ability of the final piece to communicate the intended concept • Finish: quality, neatness and completeness of the final artwork 	MARCH	04 02 02	08
FINAL TOTAL			20	20

3.1 Art and Design Project Assessment Rubric (Total: 20 marks)

1. PREPARATION (5 marks)

Criteria	Observable Indicators	Mark distribution
Preliminary sketches & drawings (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiple sketches exploring different ideas/concepts. - Lines, proportions, and forms are accurate and clear. - Each sketch clearly dated. - Variety of ideas is visible. 	<p>0 = no sketches or undated 1 = 1–2 sketches with limited variety or partially dated 2 = 3+ sketches, all clearly dated, showing variety and exploration</p>
Detailed support studies (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Studies explore form, shape, texture, colour, and composition. - Demonstrates experimentation with materials or techniques. - Shows planning for the final work. 	<p>0 = no studies 1 = 1–2 studies, limited exploration 2 = 3+ studies, relevant and clearly linked to project</p>
Research notes (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notes show planning, observations, and references. - Reflect understanding of the subject and guide the sketches. 	<p>0 = missing or irrelevant 1 = notes present, relevant and clear</p>

2. DEVELOPMENT (7 marks)

Criteria	Observable Indicators	Mark distribution
Originality, imagination, creativity (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each idea demonstrates unique interpretation. - Work is not copied from other sources; references acknowledged. - Shows creative response to the project brief. 	<p>0 = no originality, copied work 1 = some original elements, partial creativity 2 = fully original, clearly imaginative</p>
Logical development of ideas (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shows stepwise progression from sketches → studies → colour tests → shading. - Decisions on ideas are documented and followed through. 	<p>0 = no logical progression 1 = partial progression, gaps in steps 2 = clear, complete, stepwise development</p>
Documentation of work in progress (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Photographs or videos on CD clearly show project evolution. - Files are organized and labelled. 	<p>0 = missing 1 = present, complete, organized</p>
Exploration of visual ideas (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experiments with materials, images, colours or models. - Shows different alternatives and attempts. - Demonstrates learning from experiments. 	<p>0 = no exploration 1 = 1–2 experiments 2 = 3+ experiments, clearly documented</p>

3. REALIZATION (8 marks)

Criteria	Observable Indicators	Mark distribution
Execution skill (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean, accurate lines, shading, and colour application. - Correct use of materials and tools. - Skills applied consistently across all six calendar pages/animation frames 	<p>0 = no control or incorrect use of materials</p> <p>1 = minimal control; errors in technique</p> <p>2 = basic control; minor inconsistencies</p> <p>3 = clear control; accurate application</p> <p>4 = high-level control; accurate, consistent across all pages</p>
Functionality / Effectiveness (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final artwork clearly communicates intended concept (calendar pages, application promotion/40 frames to depict animation theme “Playing”). - Calendar/ animation layout and design are easy to interpret - Adheres to size (25 cm × 25 cm) and colour limit (3 colours)./ 7.5 cm × 13 cm. 	<p>0 = concept unclear</p> <p>1 = partially clear communication or minor adherence issues</p> <p>2 = fully communicates concept, correct size and colour</p>
Finish (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neat, complete, and polished presentation. - Edges, borders, and page layout handled accurately. - Work shows care and attention to detail. 	<p>0 = incomplete or rough</p> <p>1 = mostly complete, minor presentation issues</p> <p>2 = fully complete, polished, professional finish</p>

Additional Teacher Guidance

1. **Check dates** on all sketches and studies to reflect dates when they were done.
2. **Originality** – verify that ideas are the candidate’s own; any sourced material must be acknowledged.
3. **Progression** – confirm that sketches, studies, and colour tests **lead logically to the final work.**
4. **Tool proficiency** – observe clean, controlled use of materials; consistent technique; correct application.
5. **Documentation** – photos/videos on CD must show **project evolution clearly.**
6. **Size & colour adherence** – 25 cm × 25 cm per page, max 3 colours/7.5 cm × 13 cm.
7. **Stepwise scoring** – for each criterion, assign marks based on **observable evidence** in the portfolio and final work.

Note: While this rubric provides clear, observable indicators for scoring, teachers should exercise professional judgment and consider the **overall quality, creativity, and effort** of the student’s work when assigning marks.