

Introduction

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

What is the Extended Project?

This project gives you the opportunity to:

- Choose an area of interest and explore a subject or idea in depth
 - Draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by the centre
 - Learn research and dissertation writing skills
 - Plan, research and carry out the project
 - Provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment.
 - Deliver a presentation about your project to a non specialist audience
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- Achieve an AS grade (Summer 2021)
 - Universities, employers and apprenticeship managers love EPQs because they show that you have worked independently to carry out a project and demonstrated discipline and commitment (and probably learned a huge amount too)

The Project

You can choose the type of project you want to do:

- A Dissertation (research question)
- An Investigation/Field Study (testing a hypothesis)
- A Performance
- An Artefact (a solution to a design brief)

Initial Planning and Deadlines

- ① You will plan out your own work in order to meet deadlines
- ① You will submit your initial ideas and planning April- May and then begin your research/ development (progress will have to depend on the situation and your access to resources)
- ① The project will be completed in Yr 12/13
- ① Support throughout can be given over e mail.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is skills based rather than content so many different projects are all assessed using the same criteria:

	Assessment Objectives	Weighting
AO1	Manage Identify, design, plan, and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.	20%
AO2	Use Resources Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.	20%
AO3	Develop and Realise Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem-solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.	40%
AO4	Review Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.	20%

What makes a good project?

- ⦿ Is the title likely to lead to a process of planning, research, development and review?
- ⦿ Is the Project sustainable over a significant period of time?
- ⦿ Does the Project span several subject areas in a creative way, or involve development of new skills or deeper understanding?
- ⦿ Is the Project at all interesting, to you or anyone else?

What makes a good Dissertation?

- Is there a central (controversial) issue or question you can respond to?
- Does the Project give an opportunity for the development of your personal perspective?
- Is there research material which can be accessed?
- Is there scope for the development of argument and counter-argument?

Previous successful examples include:
Should Britain re-introduce capital punishment?
Should abortion be legal in the UK?

What makes a good Investigation or Field Study?

- Is there a testable hypothesis?
- Is it clear what primary research and data collection will be needed to answer the question?
- Are there secondary research studies which can be used to provide relevant data for analysis?

This suits some students who want to do a scientific or geographical investigation e.g. an ecology project, something about population distribution

What makes a good Performance or Artefact?

- Is there a clear brief or commission to which you can respond to?
- Have you taken into account the needs and interests of the audience or end user?
- Will the choice of objective lead into research addressing media, materials, techniques and processes?

Successful previous examples have been plays which have been written, rehearsed and performed, musical compositions (in a particular style), commissions for tables in a specific style/ bookshelves/ models (e.g. of eco friendly buildings)/ styles of clothing. These are great if you already have a practical skill or if you want to acquire one.

So where do you start?

- Your project needs to start with a question or design brief to do with the area you want to study or investigate
- Do some preliminary research on the internet to help you define what you want to do
- Discuss possible ideas with either Miss Holt (aholt@prospect.reading.sch.uk) or Ms Morris (mmorris@prospect.reading.sch.uk)

Tasks for April

- Research ideas on the internet
- Come up with at least 2 project briefs or questions