

# Cambridge International A Level

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**DESIGN & TEXTILES****9631/02**

Component 2 Practical Task

**For examination from 2026****SPECIMEN CONFIDENTIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**This document gives details of how to prepare for and administer the practical exam.**

**The information in this document and the identity of any materials supplied by Cambridge are confidential and must NOT reach candidates either directly or indirectly.**

**The MES Organiser must complete a practical test comment sheet for each candidate and return it with the practical test work.**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

- If you have any queries regarding these confidential instructions, contact Cambridge stating the centre number, the syllabus and component number and the nature of the query.  
email: [info@cambridgeinternational.org](mailto:info@cambridgeinternational.org)  
phone: +44 1223 553554

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This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

## General information about the practical test

- MES will choose an exam date within the test window specified by Cambridge. All work must be submitted for marking by Cambridge **by 31 October in the year of examination**.
- Duration of the planning session – **1 hour 30 minutes**
- Duration of the practical test – **5 hours 30 minutes**
- MES will be provided with the pattern number to order the correct number of patterns required for the exam.
- Prior to the planning session, MES will make copies of the task analysis and planning form and the evaluation form and place these in the pattern envelope for each candidate.
- The planning session must be scheduled a maximum of **one week** before the examination session. MES will give each candidate their pattern envelope and a copy of the question paper at the planning session.
- Organisers will be provided with copies of the practical test comment sheet by MES for use in the examination session.
- MES must follow the instructions given in this document closely and every care should be taken to safeguard the integrity of the exam.
- MES must allow time between the planning session and the examination session so that test materials can be ordered, but MES and centres **must not** organise any practice that has a bearing on the exam between the planning session and the examination session.
- The practical test comment sheet, the task analysis and planning form and the evaluation form will be available from the Samples Database.

Candidates will need to be provided with Pattern Number: Simplicity 1559 KK or 1559 UU – candidates to choose the pattern size to fit them.

**Style** – A line fitted skirt – (diagram D)

Candidates will be required to make adaptations to the pattern.

## Planning session

**1 hour 30 minutes** is allowed for this part of the exam.

- 1 Drafting, tracing and drawing paper, carbonised sheets, pins, pencils, pens and a tape measure should be provided. At the end of **1 hour 30 minutes** all pattern envelopes and candidates' work must be returned to the MES Organiser and locked away. The candidate should retain a copy of their own shopping list.
- 2 During the week before the exam, candidates should purchase the fabric and other requirements listed in their shopping list. MES must lock away the candidates' pattern envelopes until the day of the examination session.

## Examination Session

**5 hours 30 minutes** is allowed for this part of the exam.

- 1 MES must provide a first aid kit, a reliable clock and a full-length mirror.
- 2 MES must allow enough table space for each candidate and provide facilities for pressing.
- 3 Each candidate should have ready the usual sewing requirements.
- 4 The pattern envelopes must be returned to the candidates **30 minutes** before the start of the exam.
- 5 Candidates must then prepare labels showing their name, candidate number and centre number. These must be attached to the final product after the exam has finished.
- 6 MES Organisers must supervise the exam session but must not help or guide the candidates in any way.
- 7 The final **30 minutes** of the exam session is for the written evaluation. Candidates must complete this either on the day of the main exam session, or within 24 hours of the exam session.
- 8 MES Organisers must complete a practical task comment sheet for each candidate.
- 9 MES must send all of the practical task work (the practical task comment sheet, the task analysis and planning form, the paper pattern, the final product and the evaluation) to Cambridge for marking.

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