basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS/ NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

DESIGN P1

(THEORY)

MAY/JUNE 2026

MARKS: 100

TIME: 3 hours

This question paper consists of 16 pages.
This question paper must be printed in full colour.

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INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of SIX questions.
2. There are THREE choice questions in this question paper. Read the options carefully.
3. This question paper consists of THREE sections:

   SECTION A: Design literacy (30 marks)
   QUESTIONS 1 to 3

   SECTION B: Design history (30 marks)
   QUESTION 4

   SECTION C: Design in a sociocultural/environmental and sustainable context (40 marks)
   QUESTIONS 5 and 6

4. Read the requirements of each question carefully.
5. Answer in full sentences and avoid the listing of facts. Do NOT answer in tabular form.
6. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper. Incorrect numbering will NOT be credited.
7. Answer all bullet points required in each question.
8. Do NOT repeat the same facts and examples in different questions.
9. Use the mark allocation to determine the time to be spent on each question.
10. Write neatly and legibly.

GLOSSARY	
Mansplain:	A term that is used to describe the experiences of women who are often interrupted, ignored or humiliated in the workplace, mostly by men
Bias:	A practice that involves unfair prejudice/preference for a subject, a person, an opinion or viewpoint
Driftwood:	Pieces of wood that are found at the beach. Wood that drifts in the ocean is often found on the shore in a bleached, weathered form that creates an aesthetic appeal for use in design-related products.
Embodies:	Includes/Represents or stands for a particular viewpoint or opinion
Indigenous:	The original inhabitants or the original form/cultural artefacts of a place/locality

SECTION A: DESIGN LITERACY

QUESTION 1: 'UNSEEN' EXAMPLES

Answer EITHER QUESTION 1.1 OR QUESTION 1.2.

1.1



FIGURE A: **Ankara-inspired** wallpaper by Robin PH (UK), 2023.

1.1.1 Analyse the use of the following elements and principles with reference to the wallpaper in FIGURE A above:

- Line
- Shape
- Rhythm
- Emphasis (4 x 2) (8)

1.1.2 Discuss the effect of the wallpaper design as part of the room interior in FIGURE A above. (2)
[10]

OR

1.2



FIGURE B: **Table lamp**, designer unknown (USA), 2022.

1.2.1 Analyse the design in FIGURE B above by referring to the following elements and principles:

- Form
- Texture
- Contrast
- Movement (4 x 2) (8)

1.2.2 Do you think the table lamp in FIGURE B is a safe product? Give reasons for your answer. (2)

[10]

QUESTION 2: COMMUNICATION THROUGH DESIGN

2.1



FIGURE C: **Break the Bias Notebook** poster by the Warehouse Group (New Zealand), 2020.

2.1.1 Discuss the type of bias that is addressed in the poster, 'Break the Bias Notebook' in FIGURE C. Refer to the image and layout in your discussion. (3)

2.1.2 Does the 'Bias Notebook' cover empower the user? Motivate your answer. (1)

2.2



FIGURE D: **Driftwood Light** by High Thorn (South Africa), 2015.



FIGURE E: **Parsi Debons Medusa plastic pipe light** by Gudy Herder (Netherlands), 2022.

Write a paragraph in which you compare the two chandelier designs in FIGURE D and FIGURE E, with reference to the following:

- Material
- Colour
- Possible influences (3 x 2) (6)

[10]

QUESTION 3: ARCHITECTURE

Answer QUESTION 3.1 OR QUESTION 3.2 OR QUESTION 3.3.

3.1

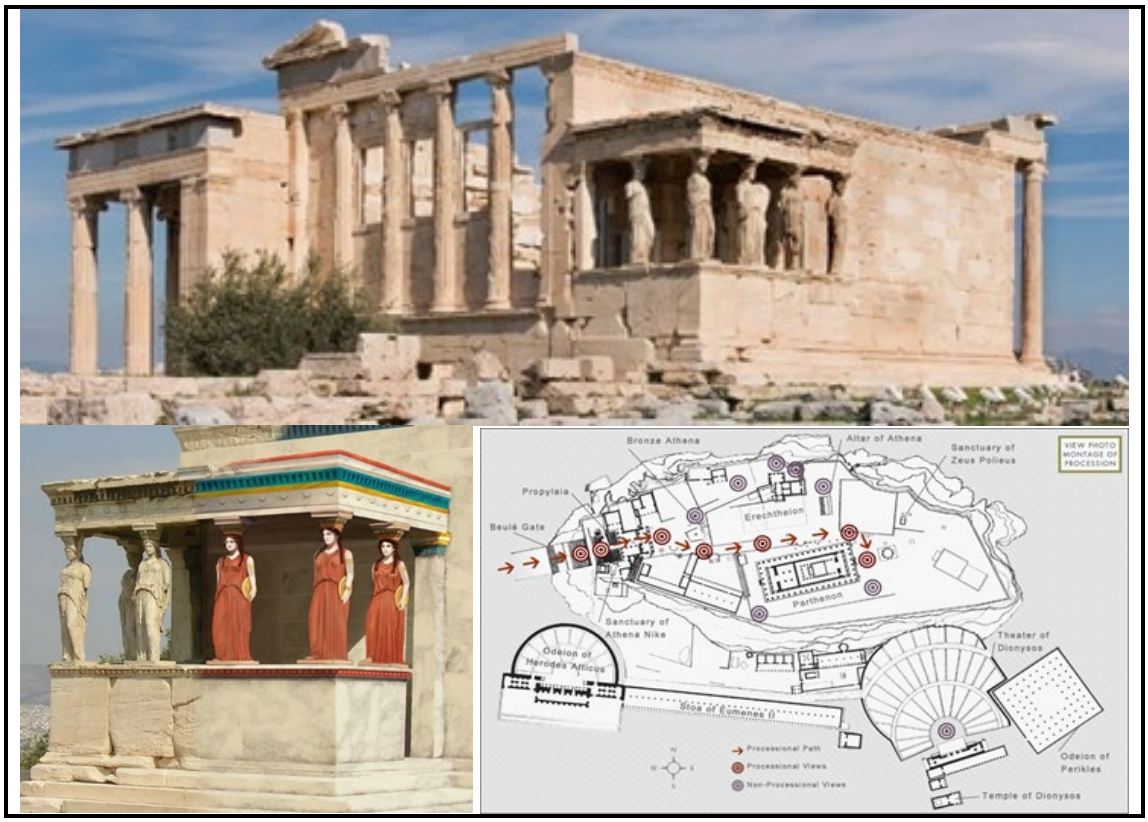


FIGURE F: **Greek temple, the Erechtheion** (Greece), 421 BCE.



FIGURE G: **Acropolis Museum** (Greece), 2009.

3.1 Write an essay (at least ONE page) in which you compare the Ancient Greek temple in FIGURE F with the contemporary museum in FIGURE G.

Refer to the following in your comparison:

- Influences OR Decoration
- Materials
- Construction/Technology
- Significance of site/location
- Function (5 x 2) **[10]**

OR

3.2 Write an essay (at least ONE page) in which you compare any Classical building/structure or Classically inspired building/structure with any contemporary building/structure that you have studied.

Refer to the following in your comparison:

- Influences OR Decoration
- Materials
- Construction/Technology
- Significance of site/location
- Function (5 x 2) **[10]**

OR

3.3 Write an essay (at least ONE page) in which you compare any Classical building/structure or Classically inspired building/structure with any Indigenous Knowledge Systems building/structure that you have studied.

Refer to the following in your comparison:

- Influences OR Decoration
- Materials
- Construction/Technology
- Significance of site/location
- Function (5 x 2) **[10]**

TOTAL SECTION A: 30

SECTION B: DESIGN HISTORY

QUESTION 4

4.1 Study the images below and answer the question on the next page.



Arts and Crafts



Art Nouveau



Bauhaus



Art Deco



Modernism



Scandinavian



Pop Design



Deconstructivism

'No design works unless it embodies ideas that are held common by the people for whom the object is intended.' – Adrian Forty

Select TWO movements from the list below and write TWO separate essays (ONE page each) in which you explain how the design movements you have chosen embodied (included) ideas that were held common by the people.

- Arts and Crafts
- Art Nouveau
- Bauhaus
- Art Deco
- Modernism
- Pop Design
- Scandinavian
- Deconstructivism

For EACH essay you should refer to the following:

- Discuss the statement with reference to the movement you have chosen. (2 marks)
- Explain the aims, influences and characteristics of EACH design movement. (5 marks)
- Name a design and the designer/design group. (1 mark)
- Include a discussion of the ONE chosen design. (2 marks)

(2 x 10) **[20]**

4.2



FIGURE H: **De Stijl club chair** by
Piet Mondrian (Netherlands), 1940s.

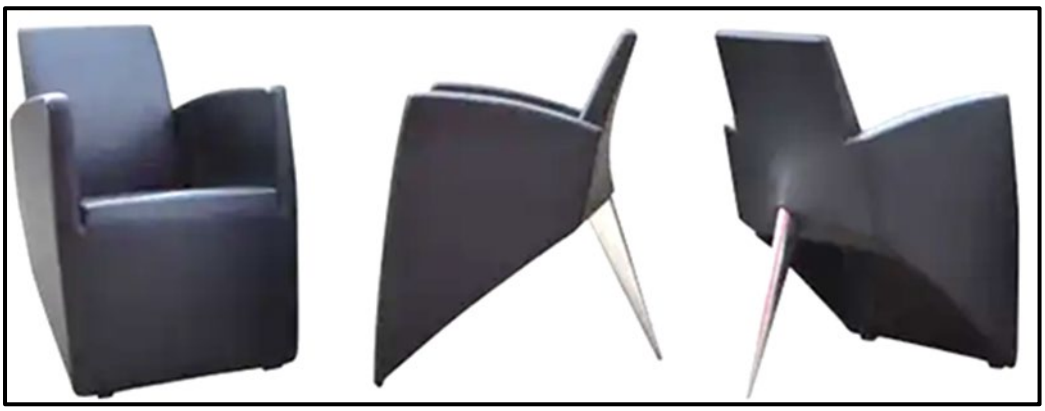


FIGURE I: **Postmodernism lounge chairs** by
Philippe Starck (France), 1987.

Write an essay (at least ONE page) in which you compare the chairs in FIGURE H and FIGURE I above, and explain how they are typical of the movements they represent.

Refer to the following in your discussion:

- Aims
- Influences
- Colour
- Form
- Ergonomics (5 x 2) **[10]**

TOTAL SECTION B: 30

SECTION C: DESIGN IN A SOCIOCULTURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABLE CONTEXT

QUESTION 5

Answer EITHER QUESTION 5.1 OR QUESTION 5.2.

5.1



FIGURE J: **Rock Girl Benches** by Lovell Friedman (South Africa), 2014.
Gender-based attacks occur in homes, schools and streets, diminishing the number of environments in which South African girls and women can feel safe.



Detail of **Rock Girl Benches** by Lovell Friedman

5.1.1 Discuss how the design in FIGURE J highlights the message it conveys. (4)

5.1.2 In TWO separate essays (at least ONE page each), discuss how sociocultural concerns are addressed in the work of ONE South African contemporary designer/design group **AND** ONE international contemporary designer/design group.

Refer to the following in your discussion:

- Name of the designer/design group and ONE design product (1 mark)
- Discussion of the aims, design materials and techniques used by the designer/design group (5 marks)
- An explanation of how this design addresses sociocultural issues (2 marks)

You may NOT refer to any designer/design group that you discussed previously or refer to design examples that appear in this question paper. (8 x 2) (16)
[20]

OR

5.2



FIGURE K: **Art Car i5 – the Flow Nostokana** by
Esther Mahlangu (South Africa), 2024.

5.2.1 Discuss the role of indigenous craft in contemporary design practice with reference to FIGURE K above. (2)

5.2.2 Write an essay (at least ONE page) in which you discuss ONE indigenous traditional craft that you have studied this year.

Refer to the following in your discussion:

- Name of the indigenous cultural community that produced the traditional craft (1 mark)
- The materials, methods and processes used to create the traditional craft (5 marks)
- The social value and function of the craft (2 marks) (8)

5.2.3 Write an essay (at least ONE page) in which you discuss the work of ONE contemporary South African or African designer/design group whose designs reflect the adaptation of indigenous craft techniques to create unique and contemporary designs.

Refer to the following in your discussion:

- Name of the design/design group and ONE contemporary design product (1 mark)
- Discussion of the aims, influences and materials of the designer/ design group (6 marks)
- Explanation of how the contemporary design product is an adaptation and continuation of the indigenous craft technique (3 marks)

You may NOT refer to any designer/design group that you discussed previously or refer to design examples that appear in this question paper. (10)
[20]

QUESTION 6

6.1



FIGURE L: **Recycled planter pots** by No1 Garden (USA), 2021.

6.1.1 Explain why the recycled planter pots in FIGURE L above can be considered as sustainable design. (2)

6.1.2 Describe TWO other ways in which household refuse can be creatively upcycled. (2)

6.2 Write TWO separate essays (at least ONE page each) in which you discuss the work of ONE contemporary South African **AND** ONE contemporary international designer/design group whose designs are sustainable and explore environmental concerns.

Refer to the following in your essays:

- Name of the designer/design group and ONE of their designs (1 mark)
- Aims, materials and processes (5 marks)
- A discussion of the design product and an explanation of how it addresses sustainable/environmental issues (2 marks)

You may NOT refer to any designer/design group that you have discussed previously or refer to design examples that appear in this question paper.

(8 x 2) (16)

[20]

TOTAL SECTION C: 40
GRAND TOTAL: 100

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