

A Level Textiles Transition Project

Project Aims

The A Level Fashion & Textiles qualification is made up of a design and make project and a written paper. You will need to study the work of two fashion designers to build up new knowledge for the written paper. The aim of this project is for you to do some independent research into these two designers so that you are really prepared for getting started on this exciting course in September. You will:

- Develop your independent research skills
- Improve your literacy skills
- Gain new knowledge about two designers
- Improve your digital drawing skills
- Practice communicating ideas
- Revise core fabrics and fibres theory

1) Research Project - to be created on your iPad

The two designers are:



Japanese designer - Issey Miyake



Welsh designer - Julien McDonald

I would like you to conduct some research into both designers and present your work in any format digitally. Please try to present your work creatively and professionally as this will help develop your skills in preparation for your design and make project. Please ensure you follow the format set out on the next page, and **do not copy and paste any text from the internet**. To actually retain and remember the information that you are reading it is essential that you summarise the material that you are discovering and reading using your **own words**. We shall be starting the course in September by looking at the exam paper, and you will need to have a solid background knowledge into these two designers in order to be able to access the work.

Structure of research - you need to do this for BOTH designers

You need to include the following in your research and you MUST use images.

- **A brief biography.** Where are they from? Where & what did they study? Why? What are the key successes of their careers so far?
- **Inspiration.** What inspires their design work. Has this changed?
- **Style.** Describe their style and use images to compliment and back up your work.
- **Key collections.** Investigate their most successful/famous/popular/iconic collections. When did they appear on the catwalk? What is the story behind them? (Make sure you know the names of the collections, what inspired them, can describe the key pieces and include photos of these.)
- **Fabrics and techniques.** Which fabrics and components do they typically use in their fashion? Are there any specific techniques that they use?
- **Customers.** Who do they design for? Describe their target market. Where do their designs sell? Julien MacDonald has some big celebrity clients. Make sure you mention these.
- **Influence.** How has their work impacted and influenced other designers?

Digital drawing work

Select 2x iconic pieces from each designer and use an App of your choice to create a digital drawing. For each drawing you should;

- Give it a title. Designer & name of collection (price if you can find it)
- Label the key features and any fabrics
- Write a very brief explanation of what you think of it

Design work

Lastly I want you to create two of your own designs. One must be inspired by the work of Issey Miyake and the other by the work of Julien McDonald. Please do not copy one of their pieces but use the style and trends of their work to inspire a design of your own.

Create the two designs digitally and include a brief explanation to explain the design.

2) Revision into Fabrics and Fibres

Using your GCSE theory iBook, your fabrics & fibres exercise books (if you took them home,) BBC Bitesize and any other online resources you find helpful, revise and create a resource that you can continually refer to throughout the course (this will be required for both your coursework and exam preparation.) This is basic revision and would have been the starting point for your revision for your GCSE exam. There are many more fabrics that you need to learn about for your A-Level exam and we will be exploring those together. However it is essential that you have a solid knowledge of these ones as we will not have time to go back over them in September.

Please ensure your resource is digital so that you can access it anytime. You may use any app you wish, but do make sure you can share it with me via Google Classroom in September so that I can check it. Create 1x page of notes for each of the following. (These can be mind-maps, tables or notes. Include images where appropriate.)

a) Natural Fibres - Cotton, Linen, Silk, Wool

Sources: where do they come from?

Properties: how do they behave?

Applications: what sort of textile products are they used to make?

b) Regenerated Fibres - Viscose, Acetate, Tencel/Lyocell

Sources: where do they come from?

Properties: how do they behave?

Applications: what sort of textile products are they used to make?

c) Synthetic Fibres - Polyester, Polyamide (Nylon), Elastane (Lycra), Acrylic

Sources: where do they come from?

Properties: how do they behave?

Applications: what sort of textile products are they used to make?

d) How are fibres turned into yarns?

e) Knitted fabrics

How are they made (include diagrams of warp and weft knitted fabrics)

What are their characteristics?

What sort of textile products are knitted fabrics used to make?

f) Woven fabrics

How are they made (include a labelled diagram of a plain weave, a twill weave and a satin weave.)

What are their characteristics?

What sort of textile products are woven fabrics used to make?

g) Bonded fabrics

What are the different methods of making a fabric from fibres not yarns? Give examples.

What are their characteristics?

What sort of textile products are bonded fabrics used to make?

