2.1 Material inquiry and the process portfolio

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 30 marks**

KEY WORDS medium • technique • iteration • annotation • process portfolio

Objective

Experiment with **media and techniques** , develop ideas through **iteration** , and document the process with clear **annotation** in a process portfolio.

You must be able to:

- try a medium in controlled experiments
- develop an idea through several versions
- annotate with intention, process and evaluation
- use mixing and scaling accurately
- select and refine for a resolved work

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

■ Experiment, then develop

Explore (try the medium: marks, layers, textures) → **test** (one variable at a time: paper, tool, dilution) → **develop** (several versions of one idea) → **refine** (choose and improve) → **resolve** (a finished work).

■ Good annotation

weak	strong
"I used watercolour. I like it."	"Wet-in-wet blue on 300 g paper spread too far; on dry paper the edge stayed crisp, which suits the wave's foam. Next: mask the foam with masking fluid."

Annotate **intention** (why), **process** (what you did, with materials), **evaluation** (what worked, why) and **next step**.

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■ Mixing by ratio

A tint keeps the same ratio when you scale it: 1 part blue to 3 parts white is the same tint as 5 parts to 15.

Worked example. A student tests a print in four versions: ink only; ink with a paper texture; ink on tea-stained paper; two-colour registration. The annotation records what each changed, and the third version is chosen because the warm paper softens the blue, matching the intention (a calm sea at dusk).

2 Practice

2.1 Give **two** things a strong annotation includes that a weak one does not. [2]

2.2 A tint uses 2 parts ultramarine to 5 parts white. The student needs 140 ml of the tint. Calculate the amounts of each, and explain why a ratio matters for a series of works. [3]



2.3 Plan **four** controlled experiments with ink on paper, changing **one** variable each time. [4]

2.4 Rewrite this annotation so it shows intention, process, evaluation and next step: "Did a collage with newspaper. Looks ok." [6]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 *(Process portfolio.)* Plan **three** process-portfolio screens for one idea, from first experiments to a refined version: what each screen shows (images and media) and the annotation for each. [10]



3.2 Explain why showing **failed** experiments in a portfolio can be a strength. [5]

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