



WJEC GCSE Digital Technology

Unit 1: The digital world (Block 3: Digital Communications)

This bundle may contain most if not, all of the following resources:

- Each lesson provided is for first-time teaching and they include the following components:
 - Starter activity – The starter is designed for knowledge retrieval, many people believe (including myself) that revision should start from the very first lesson. So, each lesson the starter activity will include questions from previous topics to improve memory recall.
 - Exam practise – As much as we would like students to be great at exams, they need considerable practise and guidance to master the art. Each lesson includes a ‘walk and talk’ style exam question that students can work through and self-assess using the mark scheme provided.
 - Concept map – A concept map provides students with an overview of the topic and establishing the relationship it has with other concepts taught throughout the course.
 - Keywords – Each lesson will include a set of key words students will come across throughout the lesson. The really important key terms will include a definition and meaning which they can refer back to throughout the lesson.
 - New information – New concept is introduced and, in most cases, a video is provided which students watch and then answer a set of questions based around it. This is designed to provide some in-class discussion before moving onto the main activity.
 - Activity – Each lesson will include at least one activity that allows students to be more independent and dig a little deeper into the new concept. All activity sheets include answers.
 - Self-checker tool – This is a useful AFL tool in which students can check their understanding. The lesson could include a multiple-choice quiz which was built in Microsoft Forms.
- AFL (Knowledge capture):
 - This document is very versatile. It can be used as a plenary at the end to check understanding, could be used as a homework to consolidate learning, a starter for retrieval practice or saved for some revision.
 - It includes a RAG rating for students to complete with some exam-style questions. The answers/mark scheme to these exam-style questions also been included.
- Review:
 - An accelerated writing activity to encourage students to go into more detail and demonstrate a deeper understanding of certain concepts. This could be converted into a bingo card and each box they complete they get a reward, works well with low ability students who need some extra motivation.
- Knowledge organisers
 - There are some question marks as to whether these really have an impact but I know a decent proportion of students find them useful so for me that’s a win. Most lessons will include a knowledge organiser that can be used as future revision. Completed copy and a blank version will be provided in case you wanted students to complete them.
- Workbooks
 - These are condensed versions of topics taught and act as a useful revision guide for students to complete in preparation for an exam.
 - It’s quite flexible and could easily be used for anyone who prefers to go down the ‘flipped learning’ approach.
 - It’s also good to set students who may be absent from lesson.
- End of block assessment
 - This is a short exam-style paper on the first block. It’s out of 40 marks and a mark scheme has been included.

Lesson breakdown



Lesson	Topic	Structure
1	Digital communication methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starter activity on retrieval practice. • Students practise an exam-style question based on last week's learning. The mark scheme has been provided with some guidance on better understanding the command words used. • In-class activities on slides 8 – 11 and some include supporting videos. • The lesson consists of two tasks: • Task 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each activity will focus on different communication methods. Students will identify their purpose, pros and cons to using them and how they are applied for personal/social use. • Task 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This has more of a focus on how businesses make use of a range of digital communication methods. Students also expected to provide examples to demonstrate their understanding. • Self-checker tool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A quiz in Microsoft Forms have been provided. Teachers can create a duplicate copy so they can pass it on to students. • Knowledge capture acts as a skills audit in which students can check their level of understanding and test it against exam-style questions. • Knowledge organisers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One organiser provided. • Revision workbook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teacher copy with answers and blank student version provided.
2	Reliability of online sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starter activity on retrieval practice. • Students practise an exam-style question based on last week's learning. The mark scheme has been provided with some guidance on better understanding of the command words used. • In-class activities on Slide 8 and 9 with supporting video contributing to the in-class discussions. • The lesson consists of one task <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 1 requires students to find a fact and use a common method of checking for reliability and this is to check it against other websites to measure how reliable it is. ○ Activity 2 students are provided with three websites, they need to comment on whether they are reliable or not and indicate that suggest this. ○ Activity 3 and 4 focus on user-generated reference sites and what they mean, with particular focus on wikis. ○ Activity 5 is a review-style activity where students will come up with a list of suggestions on how to check whether a website and its content is reliable or not. • Self-checker tool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A quiz in Microsoft Forms have been provided. Teachers can create a duplicate copy so they can pass it on to students. • Knowledge capture acts as a skills audit in which students can check their level of understanding and test it against exam-style questions. • Knowledge organisers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One organiser provided. • Knowledge capture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Three questions based on today's learning (answers provided).



3	Social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starter activity on retrieval practice. • Students practise an exam-style question based on last week's learning. The mark scheme has been provided with some guidance on better understanding of the command words used. • In-class activities on Slide 8 and 9 which include a video that will contribute to the discussion. • The lesson consists of one task: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The first two activities are quite generic and look for students to understand the key features of a typical social media site, but also understand the pros and cons to using them. ○ Activity 3 is a good way for students to understand the different classifications of social media because each platform has it's own unique selling point. ○ Activity 4 encourages students to talk about the purpose of each platform, they could refer to the target audience which hasn't been made explicit in the worksheet but is mentioned in the specification. In addition to this, some pros and cons to using them – students' responses may vary depending on what they find. It could be pros and cons for individuals and/or businesses. ○ Activity 5 looks into defamation and how that can be applied to social media using the Tommy Robinson case study. ○ It's worth noting that copyright is mentioned in the amplification section of the specification and I will be providing a bonus lesson on Copyright to supplement this. • Self-checker tool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A quiz in Microsoft Forms have been provided. Teachers can create a duplicate copy so they can pass it on to students. • Knowledge capture acts as a skills audit in which students can check their level of understanding and test it against exam-style questions. • Knowledge organisers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One organiser provided. • Knowledge capture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Three questions based on today's learning (answers provided).
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Important notes about this bundle in relation to the specification.

The assessment is only 45 marks and this is because it's a short section, just like 1.4. I recommend you combine the 1.3 and 1.4 assessment to make a full paper.



Resources

Exam starter

Exam prep!

The revision starts here!!

Look at the bitmap image (shown right)



State what is meant by the following terms:

a) The size of an image.

.....

b) The resolution of an image.

.....

State means to....

Give a specific name, value or other brief answer without explanation or calculation.

In this question, you get one mark for stating what is meant by the size of an image and one for resolution.

Use your answer slip from the booklet provided to write your answer.

[2]

Exam prep! – Mark scheme (including model answer)

The revision starts here!!

Look at the bitmap image (shown right)



State what is meant by the following terms:

a) The size of an image.

This refers to the height and width of the image which is measured in pixels.

b) The resolution of an image.

This refers to the number of pixels that can be stored per inch for example.

[2]

Size of an image:

- The height and width. ✓
- The height and width in pixels.

Resolution:

- Number of pixels per unit area of the display (per inch) ✓

Knowledge retrieval starter

Knowledge retrieval

How many points can you score?

Question	Points	Answer
What is a bitmap image made up of?	3	
What is meant by resolution?	3	
What is a vector graphic made up of?	3	
Name two types of compression.	3	
What data is in the form of sound waves?	2	
What process is used to record analogue sound at regular intervals so it can be converted to digital?	2	
What format is digital data?	2	
Name two types of primary storage	1	
What type of storage is used to store files for long-term use?	1	
What term is used to describe data that is lost when the computer is switched off?	1	

Knowledge retrieval

How many points can you score?

Question	Points	Answer
What is a bitmap image made up of?	3	Pixel
What is meant by resolution?	3	Number of pixels stored per inch
What is a vector graphic made up of?	3	Lines and curves
Name two types of compression.	3	Lossy and Lossless
What data is in the form of sound waves?	2	Analogue
What process is used to record analogue sound at regular intervals so it can be converted to digital?	2	Sampling
What format is digital data?	2	Digital
Name two types of primary storage	1	RAM and ROM
What type of storage is used to store files for long-term use?	1	Secondary Storage
What term is used to describe data that is lost when the computer is switched off?	1	Volatile memory/data

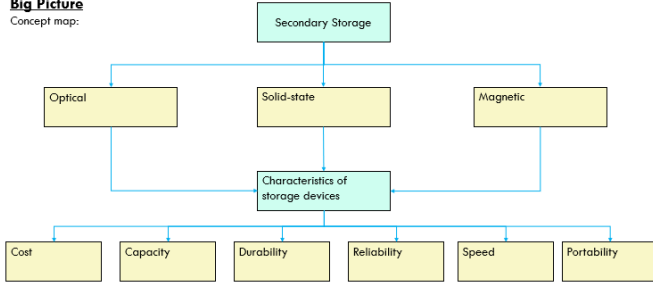
Concept map

Keywords



Big Picture

Concept map:



Key terms

Important terms:

- Storage
- Optical
- Laser
- Characteristics

Key words

Secondary storage	A type of non-volatile storage that allows data to be stored for long-term/after use.
Cost	How expensive per byte does it cost for the device?
Capacity	The amount of space available on the storage device.
Portability	How easy it is to transport from one place to another.
Durability	How resistant it is to external factors such as being dropped, scratched and how it responds to being in extreme conditions.
Speed	How quickly the data can be read and transferred from the storage device.
Reliability	This refers to longevity – how well does it maintain performance over time?

New information

Magnetic storage



Magnetic storage has been one of the most reliable types of storage for decades, starting off as magnetic tapes up to hard drives.

Question:

- How does magnetic storage work?
- Identify some pros and cons of using magnetic storage.

Answer:

- It consists of spinning magnetic platters on which data is stored a tiny head at the end of an actuator arm moves about to read and write data to different areas of the disk.
- Pros:** Cost per GB is low which gives you value for money. **Cons:** Speed: It also consumes a fair amount of power and is not always as fast as you would like. **Durability:** the platter and mechanical mechanisms are also somewhat fragile and easily damaged

Video

[Click here](#)

Activity

Activity 3

Below is a 3-bit bitmap image.

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	3	2	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	5	4	4	3	2	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	1	0	0
0	0	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	1	0	0	0
0	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
0	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Key:

0		000
1	Green	001
2	Light Green	
3	Light Blue	
4	Red	
5	Black	
6	Blue	
7	Yellow	

Self-checker tool

Questions

Responses

DT2 - Sound (7 Points)

1. Enter your first name and surname *

Enter your answer

2. What term is used to describe sound waves? * (1 Point)

End of block assessment

Candidate name	Centre number	Candidate number

GCSE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY
UNIT 1 THE DIGITAL WORLD
BLOCK 1: DATA
45 Minutes

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

Answer ALL questions.

This paper consists of three sections: Section A: Images, Section B: Sound and Section C: Measuring and storing data

Knowledge organiser

DT5: Secondary Storage Definition/Meaning: Secondary storage has the ability to store files even when the computer is switched off. Therefore, it's a non-volatile form of storage.			Magnetic Storage Description The most common example of magnetic storage is a Hard Drive . The hard drive contains a number of moving mechanical parts such as a spinning platter with a thin magnetic coating. A "head" moves over the platter, writing 0's and 1's on the platter.			Revision tip: A common misconception is that secondary storage backs up data. If a duplicate copy is created then the device used to back it up would be classed as tertiary storage.		
Review			Key terms:					
Cost	Capacity	Reliability	Cost	How much the device costs per MB.		Capacity	How much space is available on the storage device.	
Expensive from the outset, but cost per MB represents value for money.	Enough capacity to store different types of files. You can buy hard drives that can hold 4TB of data.	Can perform well for a long period of time but performance will eventually deteriorate.		Longevity – how well it can maintain the same level of performance over time.			how resistant it is to external factors such as being dropped, scratched and how it responds to being in extreme conditions.	
Durability	Portability	Speed	Durability	how resistant it is to external factors such as being dropped, scratched and how it responds to being in extreme conditions.		Portability	How easy it is to transport from one place to another.	
If it's external then it can become damaged if dropped because it has moving parts.	Would have to be detached from the computer and it's heavy.	Uses a head that moves over a platter to read and write data so it's not instant.		How quickly the data can be read and transferred from the storage device.			How quickly the data can be read and transferred from the storage device.	

Revision workbook

Optical storage

Key Questions:
 Use the bars below to rank optical storage against the different storage characteristics. You must justify your answer.

10 = Good 1 = Bad



Capacity:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Justification

In comparison to other types of storage, the capacity isn't enough store a range of files. Although Blu-ray can store up to 50GB, it's still far less than what a USB flash drive can store.

Cost

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Justification

Although the capacity of these devices is relatively low, the cost per GB gives you excellent value for money. It can cost less than £1 for one blank 25GB Blu-ray disc.

Knowledge capture

Knowledge capture



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DT3: Knowledge Capture



Specification points:

1.1b Measuring and storing data

- be able to describe the relationship between binary data storage units

Skills audit:

Criteria			
I can order digital units of data from smallest to largest			
I can convert from one digital unit to another.			
I can identify primary, secondary and tertiary storage devices.			

Teacher feedback:

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DT3: Knowledge Capture



Exam-style questions

1. Emily is creating a film for a school project using a digital video camera and will transfer the videos to a computer for editing.

The computer 2GB of storage free.

Calculate the number of videos that could be stored on the computer if each video was 200MB in size. You must show your working.

.....

.....

2. A file size has a size of 72,000,000,000 bits.

[2]

Calculate the file size in megabytes and gigabytes. You must show your working.

Megabytes:

.....

.....