

IT MAP

Synoptic assessment is a critical aspect of the OCR Level 1/2 Cambridge National Certificate in Information Technologies.

Assessment in this qualification is designed to require learners to draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding they have acquired through their studies and to utilise them in an appropriate and relevant way to complete the key tasks, leading to a more progressive and holistic understanding of the subject content.

The interdependence between the units of assessment will require learners to synthesize the knowledge, skills and understanding they develop from the taught content in the unit of teaching, in order to apply them to relevant contexts when they complete the assessments.

Project life cycle phases.	Knowledge and understanding required.		Skills required	
Initiate and plan	LO1	Understand the tools and techniques that can be used to initiate and plan solutions.	LO2	To be able to initiate and plan a solution to meet an identified need.
Execute	LO3 LO4	Understand how data and information can be collected, stored and used. Understand the factors to be considered when collecting and processing data and storing data/information.	LO5	To be able to import and manipulate data to develop a solution to meet an identified need.
Communicate	LO6	Understand the different methods of processing data and presenting information.	LO7	To be able to select and present information in the development of the solution to meet an identified need.
Evaluation (Iterative review and final evaluation)			LO8	To be able to iteratively review and evaluate the development of the solution.
		External assessment		Internal assessment
		Knowledge and understanding will be directly assessed through an exam. Questions will test knowledge and understanding and the ability to apply understanding and draw on the experience gained from developing the skills.		Skills will be directly assessed through an OCR-set assignment. Work will be judged against marking criteria that will measure how effectively skills, knowledge and understanding are used to complete a project.

The learner will have to draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding that have been studied across the specification and utilise them in an appropriate and relevant way to complete both the exam and the assignment. For example, learners may be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the phases of the project life cycle in the exam, but will evidence their application of these phases in the assignment.

To further establish the holistic approach, learners may be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of the tools and the software types used to develop project plans in the exam. However, the assignment will expect the learners to apply this learning by planning for and using the tools but will also assess their ability to integrate tools appropriately for the intended purpose.