THE STRIVING

MUSLIM ACADEMY

Islamic and Academic Education

STAGE 6 · COMPUTING · CHOOSING AND COMBINING SOFTWARE

Choosing and combining software

Everything the questions ask about is taught on the page before them, so nobody has to know the computing beforehand.

WHAT IS INSIDE

- Choosing the tool for the job
- Putting two tools together
- Designing before you build
- Go and do this
- How each one is worked

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3 topics · something to do at the end

Written for a parent teaching at home. No training assumed, and nothing else to buy.

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Putting two tools together

Read this first. Then answer the questions underneath.



Most real work uses more than one piece of software.

A chart made where the numbers live, then put into a document. A photograph taken on one device, trimmed on another, then sent. A sound recorded, cut, and added to a film.

The thing to get right is the order. Do each job in the tool that is best at it, and move the result on. Going backwards costs most of the time people lose: a picture shrunk before it was trimmed has to be done again.

1. What is the thing to get right?

Two words.

2. What should you do with each job?

The passage gives the rule.

3. WORK IT OUT **Why does a picture shrunk before it was trimmed have to be done again?**

What is lost by doing it in the wrong order?

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Designing before you build

Read this first. Then answer the questions underneath.



The urge is to start making. The habit worth building is to spend ten minutes deciding first.

Three questions. Who is this for? What must they be able to do with it? What is the smallest version that would be useful?

The third one is the hard one. Something small and finished can be shown to somebody and improved. Something large and half built can be shown to nobody, and most projects that are abandoned were abandoned there.

1. What three questions should you ask?

Three are listed.

2. Which question is the hard one?

The passage says.

3. WORK IT OUT **Why is something small and finished better than something large and half built?**

What can you do with each?

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How each one is worked

The answers to the **work it out** questions are model answers. A child who says something different and can show you where on the page it came from has done the work.



CHOOSING THE TOOL FOR THE JOB

1. What does software for numbers handle?

1. The passage says rows, columns and sums that change when the numbers do.
2. So that is the answer.

Answer: **Rows, columns and sums that change when the numbers do**

2. What does software for sound handle?

1. The passage says something for sound handles recording and cutting.
2. So that is the answer.

Answer: **Recording and cutting**

3. WORK IT OUT Why do people choose the wrong tool?

1. The passage says people reach for whatever they know.
2. What they know is not always what the job needs.
3. So they end up fighting the tool instead of doing the work.

Answer: **Because they reach for whatever they know rather than whatever fits**

PUTTING TWO TOOLS TOGETHER

1. What is the thing to get right?

1. The passage says the thing to get right is the order.
2. So that is the answer.

Answer: **The order**

2. What should you do with each job?

1. The passage says do each job in the tool that is best at it, and move the result on.
2. So that is the answer.

Answer: **Do each job in the tool that is best at it, and move the result on**

3. WORK IT OUT Why does a picture shrunk before it was trimmed have to be done again?

1. Shrinking makes the picture smaller and loses detail.
2. Trimming afterwards works on what is left, which is less than there was.
3. The passage gives it as the example of going backwards.

Answer: **Because shrinking throws away detail the trimming needed**

DESIGNING BEFORE YOU BUILD

1. What three questions should you ask?

1. The passage says who is this for, what must they be able to do with it, and what is the smallest version that would be useful.
2. So that is the answer.

Answer: **Who is this for? What must they be able to do with it? What is the smallest version that would be useful?**

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SAMPLE PAGES

You have read a few pages. The pack is longer.

What you are holding is a short sample, taken from different parts of the pack so that you can see how a week is planned and what a child is actually asked to do, before you decide.

The complete pack, and the rest of the academic materials, are on our website: schemes of work for a parent teaching at home, and practice packs for the skills children get stuck on.

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Islamic and Academic Education

Members of the homeschool community do not buy these. If you have joined the community, the pack for the term you are working on is given to you at no cost.

Our Islamic Education classes are free. These packs are part of what pays the teachers who teach them.