

Candidate evidence

Candidate 1

Properties and Characteristics

- Cotton creases very easily, this is not good for the uniform because the people wearing it won't look smart at work meaning they won't look professional.
- Cotton is a very breathable fibre which is good for the uniform as the staff wearing them will be moving around a lot this means they won't be uncomfortable at work.
- Cotton has a soft handle this is good for the uniform as the staff will be wearing their uniform for long shifts meaning they will be comfortable while at work.
- Polyester is a very strong fibre this is good for the uniform as it needs to be washed a lot meaning it won't need to be replaced often.
- Polyester is a very strong fibre which is good for the uniforms as they will most likely have things spilled on them during the day so it won't stay wet meaning, they won't be uncomfortable.

Construction techniques

- The uniform has set in sleeves this is good because the staff wearing the uniform will have a greater range of motion meaning they won't be uncomfortable at work.
- The uniform has shaped patch pockets this is good for the uniform as it means the pockets are sturdy meaning they will last a long time and provide easy access to the medical equipment that they may need.
- The uniform has an exposed zip this is good for the uniform because it is easy to take on and off so meaning they can easily change it if the uniform gets dirty.
- The uniform has a hem with a lay this is good as it means there aren't any raw edges on the inside of the uniform which would cause it to get damaged meaning it would last a long time.
- The uniform has topstitching this is very good because it makes the uniform very neat and tidy meaning the staff will look smart at work.

Candidate 2

Properties and Characteristics

35% Polyester

- One property of polyester would be that it is durable. This is good because it means that the uniform will last a long time and will keep its strength. This is suitable as the uniform will be worn mostly every day.
- Another property of polyester would be that it is warm. This is good because it means that you will stay warm during work and won't get cold when working. This is suitable as it will make you feel more comfortable when working.

65% cotton

- One property of cotton would be that it is absorbent. This is good because it means the uniform will absorb sweat when working if you get too hot. This is suitable as it will make the uniform more comfortable to wear for the wearer.
- Another property of cotton would be that it has good drape. This is good because it means the uniform will sit right on the wearer. This is suitable as it will make the uniform smarter for work.
- Another property of cotton would be that it creases easily. This is bad as it means that it will get crushed easily. This isn't suitable as it means it will look less smart and scruffy for work.

Construction techniques

Princess seams

- One construction technique used in the manufacturing of the uniform would be the princess seams. This is when the fabric is stitched almost 'not right' on the front but then makes the garment look neater and smarter to wear.

Sleeves

- Another construction technique used in the manufacturing of the uniform would be the sleeves. This is when you match the notches so that the sleeves can hang correctly. The garment should look neater and hang correctly with them.

Patch pocket

- Another construction technique used in the manufacturing of the uniform is a patch pocket. This is positioned on the right hand side of the garment at the top. The pocket should be secure and sturdy.

Zip

- Another construction technique used in the manufacturing of the uniform is the zip. This has been stitched so the stitching is even at both sides making the garment wearable and stronger.

Candidate 3

Properties and Characteristics

- The uniform would be ideal for the staff as cotton has good absorbency. This would mean that the sweat or moisture on their body would be absorbed into the jacket so the wearer would feel much more comfortable while they were at work and they could concentrate on that rather than how they feel in their clothing.
- The uniform would be good as cotton has good durability. This would therefore mean that the uniform would last longer and could handle lots of wear and tear due to the durability. This would mean that the uniform would last longer but also look better for longer due to this so it would save money for the medical centre and the staff would look smarter for longer.
- The uniform may not be great as cotton has low elasticity which would mean that it would be difficult to move around in easily. This would not be good for the wearer as the job may require them to move a lot and reach for things so it would not allow this easily and it would be very uncomfortable to wear. This would not be good for the wearer.
- The uniform may be ok as cotton and polyester have been mixed. Cotton creases badly and polyester doesn't so mixing them together will make it easier for the uniform to have crease removed more easily so the wearer does not need to spend ages ironing the uniform jacket and also it will keep a better appearance for longer.
- The uniform would be good for the wearer as it is warm because polyester has been added. This means that the wearer would be more comfortable in work and not feel the cold when it was not warm outside.

Construction techniques

- The uniform has a princess seam at the front of the jacket. A princess seam is a way of giving shape so that the wearer can have a more fitted look from the item of clothing. This would be good for the uniform as it means that the wearer will have a smart appearance.
- The uniform has patch pockets on the front of the jacket. The patch pockets will be really good for the wearer as they can keep things in the pockets and they are easy to get the things in and out of quickly so they can have free hands to do other work.

- The uniform has a yoke at the top of the jacket. This will be good as the yoke will help the wearer feel more comfortable as there is extra fabric at the top for them to move around and lift their arms more easily.
- The uniform has a zip which is a great idea on the jacket. The zip will help the wearer to quickly close the front of the jacket so that you cannot see what's underneath. It also means that the wearer can quickly take the jacket on and off if they needed to put something else on or were too hot.
- The uniform has a reverse collar that also has a contrast fabric. This is a good idea for a uniform in the medical centre as the contrast colours on the collar could link to different levels or jobs. This may be a good way of identifying staff quickly and it will also look smart too for the wearer.

Example of suitable candidate response for 2021 onwards

Question

1. Identify the construction technique that has been used on the item (the technique must be clearly stated, ie concealed zip/jetted pocket/patch pocket/peter pan collar/princess seam **not** simply a zip/a pocket/a collar/a seam).

2. Analyse the construction technique identified, linked to the requirements of the item illustrated (the candidate should provide a detailed response as to why the technique is suitable/not suitable for the item and what its purpose would be).

Suitable response

The outdoor jacket has a semi concealed zip at the centre front. This fastening would be ideal for the garden centre worker as the zip allows the jacket to be easily put on and taken off if the worker becomes too cold or hot while working outside.

The dress has a princess seam on the bodice/top of the dress. This technique helps to dispose of fullness and give the dress a fitted shape from the bust down to the waist area so when worn it will create a tailored fit and give a smart appearance.