

YEAR 7 TERM 1 ABSTRACT ART

VOCABULARY LIST

Tier 3

ABSTRACT ART uses the visual language of *line, shape, tone, colour and pattern* to create a composition that is non-representational (not an accurate depiction).

COMPOSITION is the arrangement/organisation of the visual elements within art. Some of the principles of composition are balance, contrast and pattern.

BALANCE is a means of maintaining visual stability.

ASYMMETRICAL BALANCE

CONTRAST is the arrangement of opposite elements — *light vs dark tones*, small vs large, warm vs cold colours (big differences).

ELEMENTS OF ART are: line, shape, tone, colour, pattern . **ELEMENT** is a main part.

LINE is a path that can vary in width, direction and length and often define edges. They can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, straight or curved, thick or thin.

SHAPE is a 2 dimensional enclosed area, they have height and width but not depth. They can be regular (equal sides and angles) or irregular shapes and uneven.

STONE: varies from black to white and includes all the **monochromatic** 'gray-scale' inbetween- this helps the artist understand and identify light, mid tones and darks more easily.

COLOUR SCHEME is used to describe the overall selection of **colours** in an **artwork**

PATTERN is a repetition of visual elements. There are natural and man-made patterns and they can be regular or irregular.

OPTICAL COLOUR MIXING is created when an artist or designer overlays colours such as when using coloured pencil crayons and they are then mixed by the eye, due to the **translucent** qualities of this media.

TRANSLUCENT (TRANSPARENT) means allowing some light to pass through the layer so that you can partly see the coloured layer underneath.

OPAQUE (OPACITY) is the opposite of translucent and is the inability to see through the layers.

VALUE means lightness or darkness, an essential element in drawing or painting.

MONOCHROME means one colour, so in relation to **art**, a **monochrome artwork** is one that includes only one colour. For example — greys.

SHADING is a technique that adds dimension, depth and character to an illustration. In **drawing** it shows the levels of darkness by placing darker **shades** to show shadows and less dense **shades** to highlight lighter areas.

GRADUATED SHADING means skilfully blending from dark to light by gradually altering the pressure on the pencil.

WARM colours make you feel hot: REDS, ORANGES, YELLOWS, BROWNS, *metallic colour* – GOLD

COLD colours make you feel cool: PURPLES, BLUES, GREENS, GREYS, *metallic colour* – SILVER

Tier 2

PRESENTATION neat, effective and creative **display** of work

BORDER the part or edge of a surface or area that forms its **outer boundary**.

EMPHASIS is a principle of **design** which refers to the use of visual elements to draw attention to a certain area, usually a focal point, in an **artwork**.

VARIETY in **art** means using different sizes, shapes and colours in your **artwork** to create visual diversity.

OVERLAP is when one object covers part of another object, the object in front looks closer to the viewer.

TECHNIQUE is the manner and ability with which an **artist**, designer or craftsman employs the technical skills of a particular **art** (the way we do something)

MEDIA is the material and tools used by an **artist**, or designer to create a work of **art**, for example, "pen and ink" where the pen is the tool and the ink is the material.

SPACE in a work of **art** refers to a feeling of depth or three dimensions. It can also refer to the **artist's** use of the area within the picture plane. The area around the main objects in a work of **art** is known as **negative space**, while the **space** occupied by the main objects is known as **positive space**.

OUTLINE refers to the lines real or apparent by which a figure (or shape) is defined in or bounded by

CREATE to make or produce (something) : to cause (something new) to exist. : to produce (something new, such as a work of **art**) by using your talents and imagination.

GENERATE where the main technique of development within a piece or series of artwork is an evolutionary process, or the evolution of ideas.

IDEAS a thought or suggestion as to a possible course of action.

DEVELOP is to grow, evolve, mature, expand, enlarge, spread, advance, progress, prosper, succeed, thrive, get on well, flourish, blossom, bloom, burgeon, make headway, be successful.

REVIEW is an evaluation of **art** that can include a rating to indicate the work's relative merit.

MODIFY is to **change** in form or character; **alter**.

REFINE is the improvement of the idea. It **does** not involve radical changes, but is about making small changes which improve the idea in some way. This might be done by: modification of the composition – eg replacing one object with another or changing a pose slightly.

ANALYSE an **artist's** work **means** studying the elements that make up an **artwork**, The purpose of a visual **analysis** is to recognize and understand the visual choices the artist made in creating the artwork. By observing and writing about separate parts of the **art** object, you will come to a better understanding of the **art** object as a whole.

EVALUATE the effectiveness of the work that has been produced... know your strengths, assess your weaknesses, identify what you would like to improve

CRITICAL STUDIES to develop the necessary theoretical tools to support their own studio or design practices. A key emphasis of all **Critical Studies** courses is learning to read, write, and think critically, and to develop a historical understanding of what it **means** to be an **artist** or designer.