



# CREATIVE ARTS

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If you are a student hoping to join the A Level Art or Photography courses in September, we want to encourage you to continue to exercise your creativity during the summer break and prepare you for study at A Level. You won't need much in the way of specialist equipment, just drawing tools, an internet connection and a camera phone. We are interested in how committed you are to developing your creativity and skill set. The activities are designed however to be fun.

## **Week 1 Task: Draw the same object in 10 different ways**

The term drawing is applied to works that vary greatly in technique. It has been understood in different ways at different times and is difficult to define. Many creative people have stressed the importance of drawing for their work in other media.

*'it is only by drawing often, drawing everything, drawing incessantly, that one fine day you discover to your surprise that you have rendered something in its true character.'* - Camille Pissarro (1831 - 1903)

### **ACTIVITY**

1. Select an object with an interesting shape such as a corkscrew, a musical instrument, a cup and saucer, a set of keys, shoes, a bowl of fruit...
2. On A5 paper (half of A4) draw the same object in 10 different ways. You can explore the object by drawing it from different angles.

### **Here are some suggestions for approaches to drawing with traditional materials**

#### **Drawing Techniques for Beginners**

There are standard drawing techniques that you need to be familiar with as you put pencil to paper. Some are so basic that you've probably used them before without even realizing it.

**Back and forth:** When we say basic, this what we're talking about. This approach challenges you to move your drawing utensil back and forth across the paper in an even, level motion. Depending on how much pressure you apply, the darker your drawing will appear.

**Hatching:** Hatching involves making tiny ticks on your page. Make sure that each mark is parallel to the other. Lines that are close together will look darker, while lines further apart will indicate highlights.

**Cross Hatching:** This technique is the logical extension to hatching. But instead of creating a series of parallel lines, have your marks intersect one another in a cross-like formation.

**Scribble:** Scribbling allows your hand the opportunity to fly across the page. Move your pencil in a random formation—no precise marks necessary. The more you scrawl all over an area, the darker it will look.

**Stippling:** For those who love meticulous processes, this one's for you. Stippling involves making a countless amount of tiny dots on your paper. Like all other approaches, the closer the dots, the darker the drawing.

**Blending:** If you're using charcoal or pencil, try blending them. To do so, begin with the back-and-forth technique to cover your paper, and then rub the medium into it. You can use your finger, a blending stick (aka tortillon), or chamois cloth. Another option for blending is to experiment with powdered graphite and use a paintbrush to gradually blend and build tone onto your pages.

**Continuous Line Drawing:** A continuous line drawing is one in which a single, unbroken line is used to develop the image. Although mostly created as an exercise, many continuous line drawings can stand on their own as finished works of art.

As an exercise, continuous line drawing forces the artist to closely observe the perceived lines of the subject. While focused mostly on describing the contours, shadows and form can also be communicated depending on the approach taken.

**You will be able to access you-tube videos on all of the above and research visual examples.**

**Consider the way in which the following artists have used line to describe form and tone**



**Henri Matisse Standing nude  
1901-3**



**Cypresses Vincent Van Gogh  
1899**



**Eugene Delacroix 1798-1863**

**Here are some suggestions for approaches to drawing with non-traditional materials**

Vik Muniz is a Brazilian artist and photographer. Initially a sculptor, Muniz grew interested with the photographic representations of his work, eventually focusing completely on photography. He works with unconventional materials such as tomato sauce, diamonds, magazine clippings, chocolate syrup, dust, dirt.

Muniz creates works of art, referencing old master's paintings and celebrity portraits, among other things, and then photographs them. Research this artist to inspire ideas. Here are some suggestions for alternative tools, media, and drawing action

Tools	Media	Drawing action
Cotton buds	Tea	Pull
Twigs	Coffee	Drag
Cocktail stick/wooden skewer	Food colouring	Stipple
Strips of card	Paint	Smudge
Old toothbrush	Beetroot juice	Scribble
Bubble wrap	Paint	Print
Cloth	Coffee	Smudge

**Consider and research the following questions**

What makes good art? What do we mean when we talk about contemporary art? How many different Art movements are you aware of? How does studying art differ from other subjects? What do you want to express or say in your own work?

**Week 2: A - Z Photo Project**

For this short project we would like you to use photography to create an A-Z collection. By this we mean taking photographs of architectural or natural forms that act as the letters of the alphabet as shown in the example below.

Some letters will jump out of the subject at you with ease while others will take a little more thinking about. It is a good idea to take a checklist to keep track of the letters you've captured and you may find it easier to think about one letter at a time rather than hunting for several in one go.

Some letters can be found in the branches of trees, there may be rocks with holes in that could be used for A's and P's. A lamppost would make a good I or the end of a bench. Once you've found all of your letters you could arrange them in a grid as in the example below.



## **Week 3: Understanding the formal elements of Art**

Being able to analyze an artwork is essential for developing as an artist and in understanding how to use the elements in art to communicate your own vision. Choose a Photograph or Artwork that you like or inspires you and make notes or power point slides answering the questions below.

Watch some of these short videos first.

- <https://youtu.be/sM2MOyonDsY>
- <https://youtu.be/8O-fna8HrWw>
- [https://youtu.be/Gljee9uq\\_Rc](https://youtu.be/Gljee9uq_Rc)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QM-DfhrNv8>

### **Art Analysis**

#### **Description**

1. What is the name of the artwork and does it give a clue to the intended meaning?
2. What is the name of the artist who created the artwork?
3. When was this artwork created?
4. Where was this artwork created?
5. What kind of an artwork is it? (painting, sculpture, etc)
6. What medium does it appear to be made from?
7. List all the literal objects you see in the composition (trees, people, animals, shapes, mountains, etc.).

#### **Description of Art Elements**

Consider the significant aspects of the art elements that are present and describe them:

- Line
- Colour
- Shape
- Space
- Texture
- Form

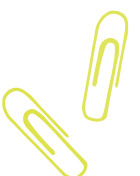
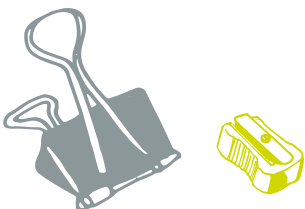
#### **Analysis**

Discuss how the artist manipulated the art elements to create the following principles:

1. Movement
2. Unity/Harmony
3. Variety
4. Balance
5. Emphasis
6. Contrast
7. Proportion
8. Pattern/Rhythm

#### **Interpretation**

1. What do you think the artist was trying to say though this art piece?
2. Why do you think the artist created this artwork?
3. Describe any additional meanings you think the artists might have intended.
4. What feelings do you have when looking at this artwork?
5. Do you think there are things in the artwork that represent other things - symbols? Colours? Objects? What?





## Evaluation

Justify your opinions on these discussion points.

1. Do you like this artwork? Why?
2. Do you think this artwork is “good” or “bad”? Why?
3. Do think this is an important work? To whom do you think it would be important? Why?
4. Would you display this artwork in your home? Should it be in a museum? Why?
5. Is there something about this work of art that you think should have been done differently? What and Why?

### Some useful websites

V&A, London: <https://www.vam.ac.uk/>

If you have Netflix, look at their series Abstract: The Art of Design: <https://www.netflix.com/gb/title/80057883>

There's lots of stuff on the BBC's website and iplayer: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/arts>

## Week 4: Learning from other artists

Use either the photograph or artwork you have analysed or a new one. You are now going to use whatever materials you have at your disposal to try to re-create the image. You learn a great deal from trying to replicate another artists work as it deepens understanding, enhances creativity and builds skill. You could copy the whole piece or pick out sections that you like.

### Reading list

This Is Modern Art, Matthew Collings

A World History of Art, Honour and Fleming

Ways of Seeing, John Berger

Art Now 4, Hans Werner Holzwarth (Editor)

### Suggested viewing

