



Year 8 Art Mini Project 'Observational Drawing'



Year 8 – Knowledge Organiser – Mini Project, ‘Observational Drawing’

Project Overview - In this project you will develop your understanding and skills in observational drawing. You will observe first-hand a range of subject matters, completing studies of these in a variety of mediums e.g., tonal pencil, charcoal, biro, oil pastels, etc. These outcomes will vary from quick sketches to complete outcomes.

Observational Drawing:

Observational drawing is the practice of drawing what you see directly from life, focusing on accurately capturing the details, forms, and proportions of the subject.

Drawing from direct observation involves carefully looking at the subject and noticing and recording the shapes, details and tones that you see.



Tone:

Tone refers to the **lightness** or **darkness** of a colour. One colour can have almost an infinite number of different tones.

Key words:

Shading – The colouring of an image to add depth.

Blending – To gradually (smoothly) transition from one tone to another.

Highlight – The lightest or one of the lighter parts of a drawing, painting, etc.

Shadow – The dark area within a drawing, painting etc.

Tonal Ladder – A scale used by artists to see how many different tones they can achieve with one colour.

Art Formal Elements

Colour – What you see when light reflects off something.

Line – A mark which can be long, straight, curved, etc.

Tone – How light or dark a colour is.

Texture – How something looks or feels, e.g., rough or smooth.

Pattern – A symbol, design or shape that is repeated.

Shape – A 2D area which is enclosed by a line, e.g., triangle, square, circle.

Form – Something which is 3-dimensional, e.g., cuboid.

Year 8 – Half Term 4 – IKE Plus

1. Create a **title page** for the unit, ‘**Observational Drawing**’. Complete this on an **A4** page.

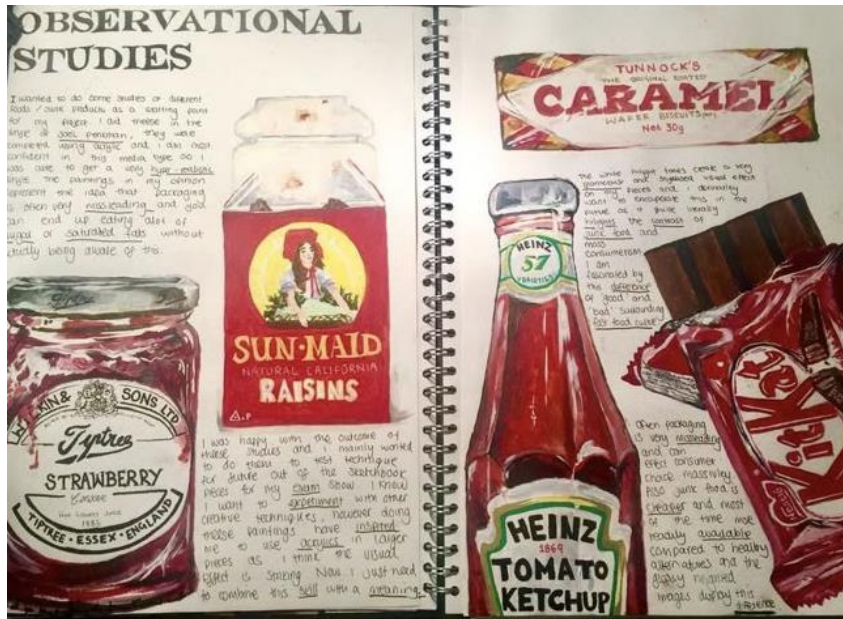
Checklist:

*A clear **title** introducing the topic – ‘**Observational Drawing**’. Use bold, interesting font.

*A minimum of three **images/ drawings** which reflect the topic.

*An intentional page layout.

***Colour** – add colour using a **medium** of your choice, e.g., colouring pencils, paints, marker pens, etc.



2. Complete a **factual poster** exploring the **7 formal elements of Art** –

- ***Tone**
- ***Colour**
- ***Line**
- ***Texture**
- ***Shape**
- ***Form**
- ***Pattern**

Steps to Success:

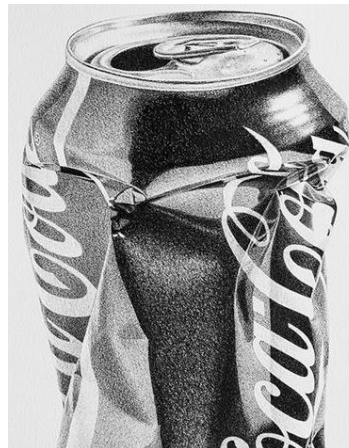
*Include a bold readable **title**, ‘**The 7 Formal Elements of Art**’.

*Present **information** on each of the formal elements. Discuss what the element is and its **importance** in Art.

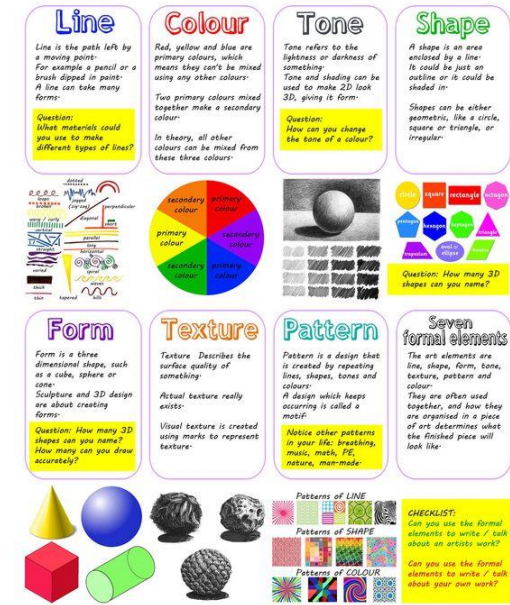
*Add **images/ drawings** which reflect each of the formal elements.

Challenge:

Create an **artwork** which **explores ALL** 7 of the formal elements. Hand this in alongside your informative poster.



The Formal Elements of Art



3. Complete a **tonal observational** drawing of an everyday item, e.g., stapler, jug, bottle, etc. Complete this on an **A4** piece of paper using a **pencil**.

Steps to Success:

***Continuously observe** (look at) the object you are drawing, to ensure **accuracy**.

*Use your pencil **lightly** to begin with to allow you to easily erase any mistakes.

*Add **tone** to your drawing through **shading**. Consider where the **highlights** and **shadows** are. For a better outcome shade in **one direction** and **blend** your tones.