

Art – Prove Your Passion

Research

- Comprehensive research of artists, photographers and designers should be your main priority.
- Do not rely on the internet only. Use art/ptgy books as they have concise and informative pages dedicated to the most important and iconic people in art history.
- When researching always read across a wide number of websites to compare facts and information.
- Do not cut and paste. Re-write useful information in your own words.

Analysis

- Analysis comes after research. Once you have learnt about the artist you are better equipped to analyse their work.
- Never guess when it comes to facts about them, but you are able to offer your own opinion where appropriate.
- Use the '10 Questions' sheet to ensure you are thinking and writing about the most important aspects of the artwork.
- Write in full sentences using interesting adjectives to illustrate your thoughts. Use an online Thesaurus.
- Don't stick to the 10 questions order necessarily. The list can be re-arranged to suit how you are writing about the artist and their artwork.

Artist Studies

- Re-producing artworks helps you understand the technical processes behind the artistic style of each artist.
- Selecting appropriate artworks from your chosen artist is important so you need to have a clear idea of the direction your own work will go in before doing studies of the artist's work
- Focus on the artworks they produced which a) inspire you and b) challenge your practical skills and use of materials.
- Always copy the artworks in the same or similar material.
- You don't always have to copy the entire piece, zooming in on one section or focusing on one aspect of the work is fine depending on the reason you have chosen to study this particular artwork.

Own Interpretation

- Taking inspiration from the artist is part of the process when creating your own work, but this doesn't mean you are producing work which looks exactly like theirs.
- Be clear on what aspects of the artist's work you are inspired by eg. theme, artistic style, technique and processes, materials used and design and create your own work which focuses on these in-particular.
- Take your own photos - primary sources are essential!
- Do quick sketches to work out compositions/lighting/colours/tones etc.
- Always experiment first i.e. mix paint colours in your sketchbook and label them to show the process you went through to get the right colours.
- Mistakes are good. Document everything you do and explain why it was successful/unsuccessful
- Annotation – explain the ideas, processes and outcomes of everything you do.

Extras:

- Compile a bibliography. This is part of the marking criteria
- Go to art galleries & museums. Timeout London is excellent for keeping up to date on the latest exhibitions <http://www.timeout.com/london/art>