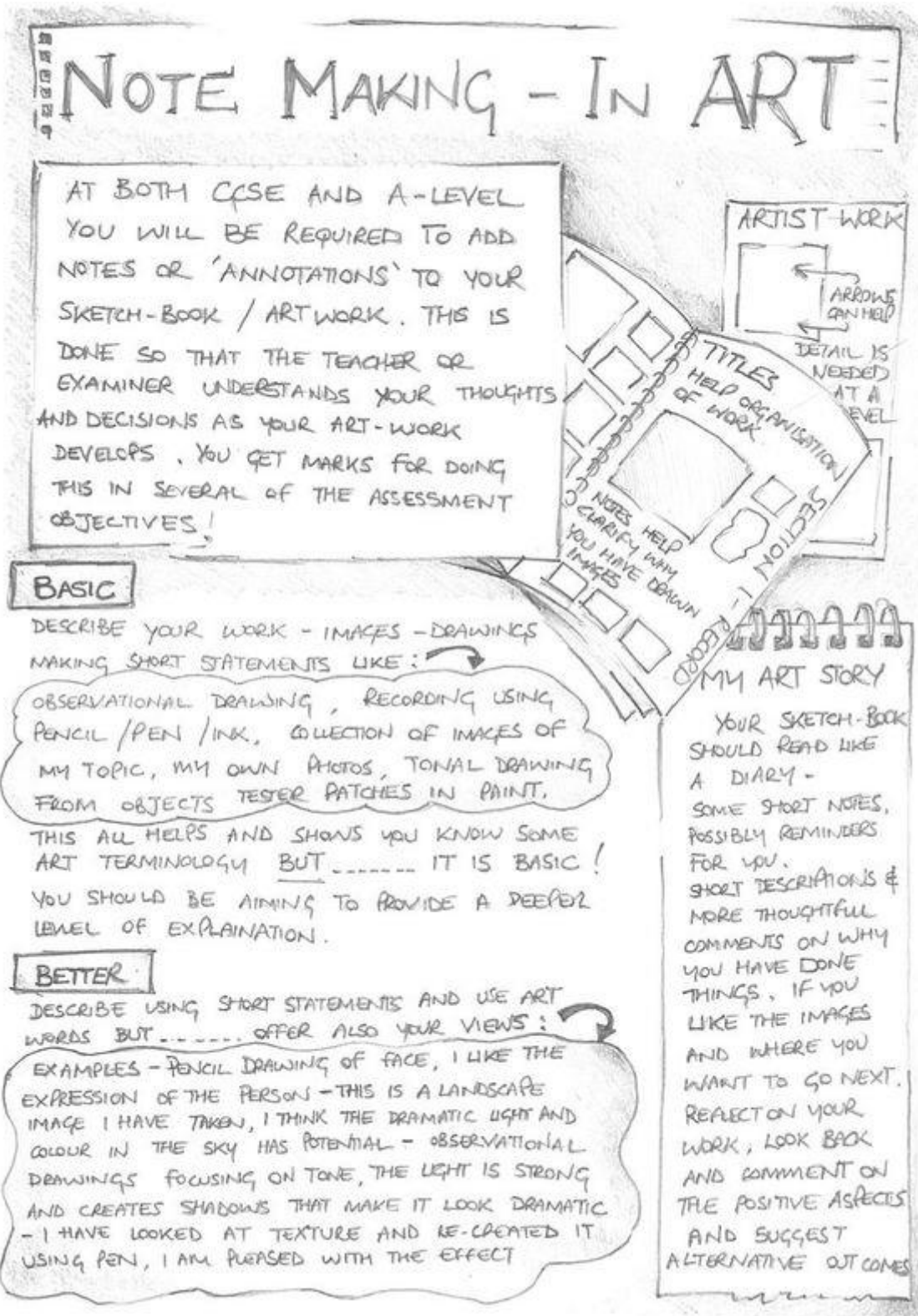


RESOURCES FOR VCE ART CREATIVE PRACTICE STUDENTS

"HOW DO I ANNOTATE?"



ART ANNOTATION - ARTISTS WORK

Before using the boxes of words below write as many words that describe your work as possible. Then use some of the following sentence starters or create your own.

- (Name) is a [painter etc.] and they work with ... [watercolour etc.]
- They are part of the [insert] movement which [info about movement].
- [Artists name] is a landscape painter/portrait painter/abstract painter.
- I have chosen this artist because...
- The main theme(s) of [artists name] work is [natural forms/death/people in his life, rural landscapes/machinery etc.]
- When I researched [artists name] I was fascinated/amused/interested/saddened to learn...
- The colours the artist uses are... this gives a feeling of...
- The surface of the artwork is [smooth, textured, rough]
- I am drawn towards this artists work because...
- I love these artworks because....and they make me feel...
- These artworks have an atmosphere of...
- I've always been interested in... and so was fascinated to see...
- Now I have looked at their work I am going to...

Always refer to an artist by their full name or second name.
e.g. 'Grayson Perry' or 'Perry'.
Never 'Grayson'

Discipline

Painter
Sculptor
Printmaker
Mixed media artist
Designer
Illustrator
Graphic Artist
Photographer
Ceramicist
Oil Painter
Watercolourist
Textile Artist

Tone

Deep
Graduated
Intense
Heavy
Strong
Pale
Light
Faded
Pallid

Line

Thick / Thin
Bold
Flowing
Undulating
Broken
Scratchy
Uneven
Narrowing
Horizontal
Vertical
Interrupted
Faint

Form / Composition

Geometric
Organic
Rounded
Curved
Symmetrical
Asymmetrical
Balanced
Classical
Focal Point
Foreground
Middle ground
Background
Irregular
Heavy
Solid
Overlapping
Central
Flat
Positive / Negative

Colour / Texture

Bright
Dull
Vivid
Strong
Dramatic
Vibrant
Brilliant
Intense
Monochrome
Primary
Muted
Subtle
Dull
Watery
Delicate
Smooth
Grainy
Gritty
Coarse
Rough

Mood

Happy
Uplifting
Positive
Moody
Gloomy
Miserable
Intimate
Soothing
Calm
Peaceful
Intense
Restful
Gentle
Sinister
Mysterious
Oppressive
Menacing
Ominous
Threatening
Dark



GOOD EXAMPLE

Lewin is a printmaker who mainly works with lino and woodblock. Her prints are of plants and she is inspired by English hedgerows. I have chosen this artist as I love her stylised work and the muted colours she uses. The lino and woodblock create smooth, flat areas of colour. In particular I love the way she has given a traditional theme a modern look. Now I have looked at her work I am going to photograph grasses and seed heads.

ANALYSING ARTIST'S WORK

Name, Title, Date & Image

1. INTRODUCTION

Describe the Artist. Consider the following:

- Who created the work?
- When and where the work was made?
- What themes does the artist/photographer explore & the general style of their work?
- What art movement are they affiliated with?

2. CONTEXT

Explain what influenced the Artist to create this artwork/photograph. Consider the following:

- When was it created? Describe the period/context when/where the work was made?
- What was happening in the world at that time that might have influenced the artwork?
- How does the period/context influence the work?
- What else was happening when the work was made (art, life, politics) that may have influenced the artist and their work?

3. CONTENT

Describe the photograph as though you were explaining it to someone who cannot see it.

Explain why the photographer has created the image. Consider the following:

- What type of photograph is it?
- What is the photo about/what is the subject matter?
- What can you see (foreground, middle ground, background)?
- What is the most important thing in the photo?
- Does the Title express the Theme behind the work?
- Where and when was it taken (i.e., in a studio, on location, etc)?
- Is it a real event or is it staged?

4. THE FORMAL ELEMENTS

- **Describe** what formal elements are in the artwork.
- **Explain** why the artist has used them.
- **Explain** how do these elements convey meaning or create an impact? Give examples.

Line
Tone
Colour
Form
Shape
Texture
Pattern
Space

5. PROCESS

Explain how the artwork/photograph was produced. Consider the following:

Photograph

- Is it digital or film?
- What techniques have been used?
- What settings were used?
- Is the image realistic or has it been manipulated in any way?

Artwork

- What medium/media?
- What techniques have been used?
- What size is the artwork? What (if any) impact does this have on the viewer?

6. MOOD

Describe the mood of the artwork. Consider the following:

- Does the work capture a mood, feeling or emotion?
- How would you describe the mood of the image?
- How has this been achieved?

7. CONNECTIONS

- **Compare** this work to others that may be of a similar theme or made in a similar way.
- **Review** and **relate** these works to your own project. Consider the following:
 - How does it link to your project?
 - What ideas does it give you?
 - What have you learnt from analysing this artwork/artist?

8. Emulate (for Art)

Create your own high quality practical response to the artwork using similar media

Read through to check your work carefully before submission.

ART VOCABULARY

Words to make your writing about art zing!

ADJECTIVES



TIPS

- ★ Make your writing fun & interesting to read.
- ★ Take time to look closely at the image.
- ★ Use evidence from the image to back up your observations.

Crisp
Contrasting
Fluid
Complimentary
Relaxed
Delicate
Subtle
Pale
Grainy
Symmetrical
Uniform
Harsh
Lurid
Bleached
Earthy
Parallel

Formless
Saturated
Geometric
Balanced
Faint
Indistinct
Flowing
Dismal
Radiant
Minimal
Slender
Wobbly
Miniature
Vivid
Horizontal
Intense

Robust
Ambiguous
Curvy
Busy
Rough
Monochrome
Repeated
Scratchy
Glassy
Tranquil
Distorted
Mellow
Translucent
Opaque
Pronounced
Monumental

Garish
Distinct
Dramatic
Layered
Dazzling
Striking
Gloomy
Vertical
Concealed
Juxtaposed



NOUNS

Frame
Foreground
Focus

Perspective
Background
Viewpoint

Tone
Shadow
Composition
Colour
Surface
Perimeter
Element

Texture
Emphasis
Subject
Brush-stroke
Technique
Construction
Depth

Highlight
Scale



IDEAS

- ★ Find 5 new words and look up their meanings
- ★ See how many of these words you can use describing a chosen artwork
- ★ Work in pairs to discuss works using these words



Don't overuse
these words!
Unique | Bold
Like | Abstract