AP 2-D Art and Design

Revision Sheet · 考前速记

Learn these by heart before the exam. 考试前把这些内容背熟。

Elements of Art

Line 线条: the path of a point: contour, gesture, implied, hatching; controls movement and energy

Shape and form 形状与形体: shape is 2-D (geometric or organic); form implies 3-D through value and perspective

Value 明度: lightness to darkness; the single strongest tool for creating the illusion of light and depth

Color 色彩: hue, value, intensity; warm advances, cool recedes; complementary pairs create contrast

Texture 肌理: actual (felt) or implied (seen); a surface quality that adds tactile interest

Space 空间: positive (the subject) and negative (around it); depth via overlap, size, and atmospheric perspective

Principles of Design

Balance 平衡: symmetrical, asymmetrical, or radial distribution of visual weight

Emphasis 强调: a focal point drawing the eye, made through contrast, isolation, or placement

Movement and rhythm 动感与节奏: the path the eye follows; repetition of elements sets a visual beat

Proportion and scale 比例与尺度: size relationships within the work and to the real world

Unity and variety 统一与变化: the balance between coherence and interest; too much unity is dull, too much variety is chaos

Contrast 对比: difference (light/dark, rough/smooth, large/small) that creates visual interest and directs attention

2-D Media and Techniques

Drawing (graphite, charcoal, ink), painting (acrylic, watercolour, oil), printmaking (relief, intaglio, screen), collage, photography, and digital.

2-D Design emphasises the surface: composition, pattern, graphic impact. Master ONE material deeply rather than sampling many shallowly.

Document with strong, evenly-lit, colour-accurate photographs. Poor documentation loses marks a strong work should have earned.

The Sustained Investigation (60%)

15 images plus writing. It is judged on a guiding QUESTION and visible practice, experimentation, and revision over time.

Show your thinking: how the inquiry evolved, what you tried, what you kept, what you changed. Iteration is the point.

The written evidence (about 1200 characters total) states the inquiry and describes how materials and ideas developed it.

Synthesis of materials, processes and ideas is the highest band. A series of pretty but unconnected pictures is not an investigation.

Selected Works (40%)

5 works showing 2-D skills: the elements and principles used deliberately, with quality materials and technique.

Each carries a short written statement naming the idea and the materials/processes.

These are your BEST resolved pieces. Skill and the considered use of design are what is scored here.

Academic integrity

Work from your OWN photos and ideas. If you use another image, you must MOVE BEYOND it (transform, do not copy).

Copying another artist's work, or a published photo, without significant change is a violation and scores zero.

Cite and transform your sources. Appropriation must show clear personal, original decision-making.

Portfolio checklist

One clear inquiry question driving the Sustained Investigation. Evidence of experimentation AND revision, not just finished pieces.

Consistent, honest documentation. A materials and process focus that suits 2-D Design (surface and composition).

Deliberate use of at least several elements and principles you can NAME. Assessors reward intention you can articulate.