Present: The AP Portfolio

AP 2-D Art and Design ▪ Topic 6

AP 2-D Art and Design



What we will cover

1. The two portfolio sections
2. Sustained Investigation
3. Selected Works
4. Writing about your work
5. Presentation & image quality
6. The scoring guidelines
7. Academic integrity

1 The portfolio

The AP exam is a portfolio, not a written test

Big Idea 3 is about presenting. The **portfolio** 作品集 has two sections, both submitted digitally.

> There is no timed exam – the portfolio is built across the whole course.

The AP exam is a portfolio, not a written test, in detail



AP 2-D Art · The two parts of the portfolio and their weighting

15 images, plus 5 selected works

Big Idea 3 is about presenting.

The AP 2-D Art and Design Portfolio



both submitted as digital images · scored against the guidelines

AP Art 2-D · Present · the two-part portfolio structure

The portfolio is a 15-image Sustained Investigation plus 5 Selected Works, submitted as digital images

The two sections at a glance

Sustained Investigation 持续探究

15 images showing inquiry, practice, experimentation and revision

+ written evidence

weighted more than Selected Works

Selected Works 精选作品

5 works that best show your 2-D skills

+ materials, processes, ideas and size

they need not belong to the investigation

Works may be physical or digital – but all are submitted as digital images.



Selected works show sustained craft

Sustained Investigation – images and written evidence

Judged on the inquiry and the practice, experimentation and revision it shows.

- 15 images – works and process documentation, over time
- written evidence: name the **guiding questions** 引导性问题
- describe how the work shows the three actions

> Images should tell the story of the inquiry, not just show finished pieces – detail and in-progress shots are allowed.

Selected Works: Demonstrating Skills

The Selected Works section shows your best evidence of **2-D skills 二维技能** and synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas.

- Submit **5 works** (physical or digital) as high-quality images.
- For each, give the **materials, processes, and ideas** used, plus the size.
- These works are judged mainly on the skilful use of the elements and principles; they need not belong to the sustained investigation.

2 Writing & presentation

Writing about your work

Writing communicates inquiry, processes and ideas to viewers who cannot ask you questions.

- stay within character limits – concise and specific
- state the guiding question clearly
- use evidence, not vague claims

> Idea → process → revision beats describing finished pictures.



Written evidence starts from inquiry notes and tests

Presentation and image quality

Image quality is part of the grade – poor images can hide real skill.

- even lighting, sharp focus, true colour
- crop to the work; avoid glare and keystoning
- keep resolution high



Selected works need clear craft and presentation quality

3

Scoring & integrity

Understanding the scoring guidelines

Both sections are scored against published **scoring guidelines** 评分标准:

Sustained Investigation – inquiry + evidence of practice, experimentation, revision

Selected Works – 2-D skills + synthesis of materials, processes, ideas

> Readers use visual evidence in the work *plus* your writing to apply the criteria.

Design your work with the criteria in mind – but not to a formula.

Academic integrity and citing sources

Portfolios must be your own work – using others' work without permission or citation is a serious violation.

- work from **published sources** 参考来源 you did not create must move far beyond duplication and **cite** 注明出处 the source
- never present another artist's work – or an AI-generated image – as your own

> Citing influences shows **integrity** 诚信, not weakness.

When in doubt, work from your own photos, observation and imagination.

Worked example – writing the investigation statement

For the Sustained Investigation you write a short statement about your inquiry and how the work developed.

- *"My inquiry asked how repetition can show the passing of time. I began with pencil grids, then moved to printmaking so I could repeat one image with small changes, revising the spacing in later prints to slow the visual rhythm."*
- Idea, materials, and **change** – in one or two sentences.

The statement is evidence of decision-making. A description of the finished work, with no revision named, evidences nothing.

4 Recap

Topic 6 – key takeaways

1 Two sections

15-image Sustained Investigation + 5 Selected Works

2 Show process

in-progress images, not only finished pieces

3 Write tightly

name the guiding question; idea to process to revision

4 Integrity

transform any source far beyond copying, and cite it

Check yourself

1. How many works go in Selected Works?
2. Must Selected Works come from the investigation?
3. What is keystoning, and why avoid it?
4. You worked from a photographer's image. What must you do?

Answers **1.** 5 **2.** no **3.** tilted edges from an angled camera – it distorts the work **4.** move far beyond it and cite the source