

Exercise walk-through

4.6

Mixed Media and Experimental Surfaces

AP Drawing

Paint and printmaking as drawing

The Drawing portfolio welcomes painting and printmaking – **when mark-making leads the work.**

- a **grisaille** is **drawing with a brush**
- a **monotype** gives painterly, **unrepeatable** marks
- **relief** and **intaglio** build every value from **scratched lines**

Line, tone and mark → **Drawing**;
colour-shape design → 2-D portfolio.



Rembrandt etching: every value from scratched lines

Mixed media and experimental surfaces

Combining media turns the **surface itself** into a drawing decision. Classic pairs: ink line over wash, charcoal over acrylic ground, pastel over watercolour.

A **resist** support.

protects the lights; **gesso**

lets wet media sit on almost any

Working on something other than white paper

the supports

kraft paper, old book pages, maps, fabric – the **ground becomes part of the meaning**

relief prints

lino and woodcut: carving is drawing, and the print is the drawing's other half

coloured pencil

layered and burnished, it holds detail that pastel cannot

test first

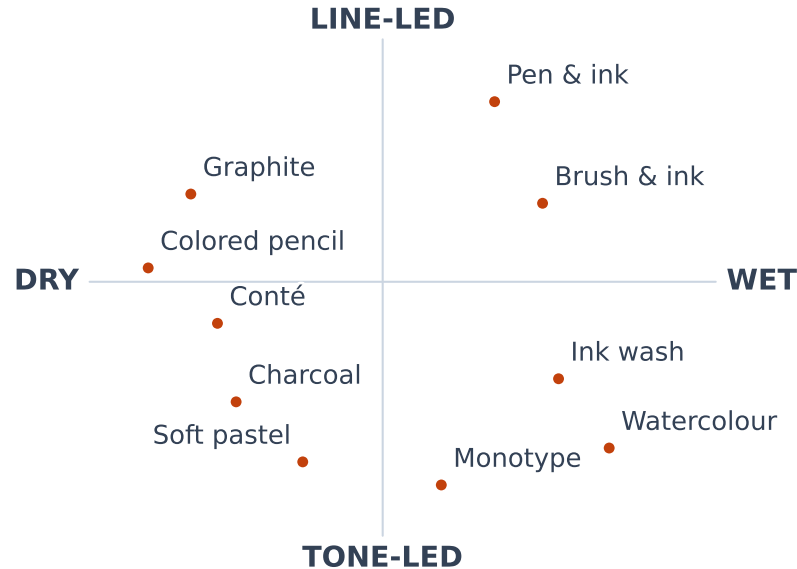
try combinations on **scraps**, then glue the tests into your journal – perfect experimentation evidence

keep it photographable

heavy glossy buildup **glares under lights**, and the scorer sees only the photograph

A support chosen for its meaning – a map for a drawing about migration – is **synthesis**, not decoration. Say so in the writing.

Mixed media and experimental surfaces, in detail



AP Drawing · Media · a map of drawing media: dry-wet × line-tone

dry to wet, line-led to tone-led

Combining media turns the **surface itself** into a drawing decision.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 A ground that lets wet media sit on almost any support is

[1]

☐

A fixative

B gesso

C graphite

D shellac

2.2 When is mixed media synthesis, and when is it just decoration?

[2]

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 A ground that lets wet media sit on almost any support is

[1]

☐

A fixative

B gesso

C graphite

D shellac

2.1 B

- gesso primes the surface

2.2 When is mixed media synthesis, and when is it just decoration?

[2]

2.2

- synthesis = the material embodies the idea / swapping it changes the meaning; decoration = texture added with no meaning

Exercise 2.3

2.3 What does a resist do? [1]

3 Studio & portfolio tasks

3.1 Make a **mixed-media study** where the materials carry meaning.

(a) Combine at least two media on a prepared or non-white ground. [3]

(b) Write one sentence linking a material choice to the idea. [1]

3.2

() Test three media combinations on scraps and note the outcomes. [2]

Exercise 2.3

2.3 What does a resist do? [1]

3 Studio & portfolio tasks

3.1 Make a **mixed-media study** where the materials carry meaning.

(a) Combine at least two media on a prepared or non-white ground. [3]

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() Test three media combinations on scraps and note the outcomes. [2]

Full solution 2.3

2.3

- it protects the lights (wax/masking fluid) so media does not cover them

3.1

- at least two media genuinely combined; a prepared/non-white ground used; a stated material-to-idea link; the surface serves the meaning, not decoration

3.2

- three combinations tested; outcomes noted as experimentation evidence