Line and Mark-Making

AP Drawing · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
line quality /laɪn 'kwɒlɪti/	**Line quality** means how thick, thin, dark or light a line is.
mark-making /mɑːk 'meɪkɪŋ/	**Mark-making** is the way you put marks on paper.
weighted line /'weɪtɪd laɪn/	A **weighted line** is thicker in some places to show depth.
lost-and-found lines /lɒst ænd faʊnd laɪnz/	**Lost-and-found lines** fade in and out.
contour line /'kɒntʊə laɪn/	A **contour line** follows the edge of a shape.
blind contour /blaɪnd 'kɒntʊə/	In a **blind contour**, you draw without looking at the paper.
cross-contour lines /krɒs 'kɒntʊə laɪnz/	**Cross-contour lines** wrap around a form to show its shape.
gesture drawing /'dʒestʃə 'drɔːɪŋ/	A **gesture drawing** catches movement quickly.
line of action /laɪn ɒv 'ækʃn/	The **line of action** shows the main movement of a figure.
hatching /'hætʃɪŋ/	**Hatching** uses lines side by side to make shadow.
cross-hatching /krɒs 'hætʃɪŋ/	**Cross-hatching** crosses lines to make darker shadow.
value /'vælju:/	**Value** is how light or dark a tone is.
stippling /'stɪplɪŋ/	**Stippling** uses dots to make shade.

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scribble /ˈskrɪbl/	A loose **scribble** can build up tone.
additive /ˈædɪtɪv/	**Additive** drawing builds up marks.
subtractive /sʌbˈtræktɪv/	**Subtractive** drawing removes tone with an eraser.
surface /ˈsɜːfɪs/	The **surface** of the paper affects your marks.
actual texture /ˈæktʃuːəl ˈtekstʃə/	**Actual texture** is the real feel of a surface.
implied texture /ɪmˈplaɪd ˈtekstʃə/	**Implied texture** is drawn to look rough or smooth.
frottage /ˈfrɒtɪdʒ/	**Frottage** means rubbing over a textured surface.
tooth /tuːθ/	Paper with more **tooth** holds charcoal better.
expressive lines /ekˈspresɪv laɪnz/	**Expressive lines** show feeling.
distortion /dɪˈstɔːʃn/	Mannerist art used **distortion** to make figures look strange.
voice /vɔɪs/	Your artistic **voice** is your own style.