Drawing Media and Processes

AP Drawing · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
graphite /ˈgræfaɪt/	Pencils contain **graphite**.
grades /greɪdz/	Pencils come in **grades** from hard to soft.
carbon pencil /ˈkɑːbən ˈpensl/	A **carbon pencil** gives a rich black line.
overhand grip /ˌəʊvəˈhænd grɪp/	An **overhand grip** holds the pencil from above.
charcoal /ˈtʃɑːkəʊl/	**Charcoal** makes dark, soft marks.
vine charcoal /vaɪn ˈtʃɑːkəʊl/	**Vine charcoal** is light and easy to erase.
compressed charcoal /kəmˈprest ˈtʃɑːkəʊl/	**Compressed charcoal** is dark and hard to erase.
conté /kɒnˈteɪ/	**Conté** is a hard chalk stick.
fixative /ˈfɪksətɪv/	Spray **fixative** stops charcoal smudging.
sanguine /ˈsæŋgwɪn/	**Sanguine** is a red-brown chalk.
ink /ɪŋk/	**Ink** makes strong, permanent lines.
nib /nɪb/	A pen **nib** makes thick and thin lines.
brush and ink /brʌʃ ænd ɪŋk/	**Brush and ink** give flowing lines.
ink wash /ɪŋk wɒʃ/	An **ink wash** uses watered-down ink for grey tones.

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ink painting /ɪŋk ˈpeɪntɪŋ/	Chinese **ink painting** uses a brush and black ink.
dry colour media /draɪ ˈkʌlə ˈmiːdiːə/	Pastels and crayons are **dry colour media**.
colored pencil /ˈkʌləd ˈpensl/	**Colored pencil** can be layered.
burnishing /ˈbɜːnɪʃɪŋ/	**Burnishing** presses hard to make colour smooth and shiny.
complement /ˈkɒmplɪmənt/	Red's **complement** is green.
soft pastel /sɒft ˈpæstl/	**Soft pastel** is powdery and blends easily.
oil pastel /ɔɪl ˈpæstl/	**Oil pastel** is waxy and bright.
sgraffito /ˈesgræfiːtəʊ/	**Sgraffito** scratches through one layer to show another.
painting /ˈpeɪntɪŋ/	**Painting** uses wet colour on a surface.
grisaille /ˈgrɪseɪl/	**Grisaille** paints in shades of grey.
monotype /ˈmɒnəʊtaɪp/	A **monotype** is a print made only once.
relief prints /rɪˈliːf prɪnts/	Woodcuts are **relief prints**.
intaglio /ɪnˈtæglɪəʊ/	In **intaglio**, ink sits in cut lines.
resist /rɪˈzɪst/	Wax acts as a **resist**: paint will not stick to it.
gesso /ˈdʒesəʊ/	**Gesso** prepares a surface for drawing.

Word	Example
synthesis /ˈsɪnθəsɪs/	Your work shows a **synthesis** of ideas, materials and process.
sketchbook /ˈsketʃbʊk/	Keep a **sketchbook** with you.
master copy /ˈmæstə ˈkɒpɪ/	A **master copy** copies a famous artist's drawing to learn from it.
practice /ˈpræktɪs/	Daily **practice** improves your drawing.

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