AP Drawing

Revision Sheet · 考前速记

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

Line and Mark-Making

Contour line 轮廓线: describes an edge; cross-contour lines wrap across a form to describe its volume

Gesture 动态速写: fast, whole-arm marks that capture movement and energy before detail

Hatching and cross-hatching 排线与交叉排线: sets of lines building value and texture; density controls darkness

Mark-making 笔触语言: the vocabulary of marks (stippling, scribble, blending); a personal mark language is a sign of maturity

Line quality 线条质感: variation in weight, speed and pressure; a living line beats a uniform outline

Value, Light, and Form

Value scale 明度梯度: the range from white to black; a full range gives depth and drama

Light logic: highlight, light, core shadow, reflected light, cast shadow. Getting this order right makes a form read as solid.

Chiaroscuro 明暗对照法: strong light-dark contrast to model three-dimensional form

Cast shadows anchor an object to its surface and describe the light source. Reflected light keeps the shadow side from going flat and dead.

Space, Depth, and Proportion

Linear perspective: one-, two-, and three-point, with a horizon line and vanishing points.

Atmospheric perspective 空气透视: distant objects are lighter, cooler and less detailed; a way to create depth without perspective lines

Depth cues: overlap, relative size, placement, and value contrast. Foreshortening shortens a form receding toward the viewer.

Sighting 目测比例: using the pencil to measure angles and proportions against each other; the fix for distorted drawing

Drawing Media and Processes

Dry: graphite, charcoal (vine and compressed), conte, coloured pencil, pastel. Wet: ink, wash, marker. Digital drawing is allowed.

Additive builds up dark on light; subtractive (an eraser in charcoal) lifts light out of dark. Show you can do both.

Drawing is broad: mark-making, line, and surface manipulation, not just rendering. Collage and mixed media count if the intent is drawing.

Document with strong, evenly-lit, colour-accurate photos. Weak documentation loses marks that the work earned.

The Sustained Investigation (60%)

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

Show the inquiry evolving: what you tried with drawing materials and processes, what worked, what you revised. Iteration is the point.

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

Synthesis of materials, processes and ideas is the top band. Unconnected finished drawings are not an investigation.

Selected Works (40%)

5 works showing drawing skill: mark-making, the use of light and form, composition, and quality of execution.

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

These are your BEST resolved drawings. Skilful, deliberate mark-making is what is scored here.

Academic integrity + checklist

Work from your OWN observation and photos. If you use another image you must MOVE BEYOND it; copying scores zero.

One clear inquiry question. Evidence of experimentation AND revision, not just a set of finished pieces.

A full value range and a personal mark language. Deliberate, nameable decisions about line, value and space.

Consistent, honest documentation across all 20 images.