

Make: Practice & Revision

AP Drawing ■ Topic 6

AP Drawing



What we will cover

- 1 The sustained investigation
- 2 Practice experimentation revision
- 3 Synthesis
- 4 The six drawing skills
- 5 Composition & craft
- 6 Developing ideas over time

1

The investigation

The Sustained Investigation

Big Idea 2 is about **making**: a body of work exploring **one** question in depth over time.

- guided by **questions**, and it develops as you draw
- **15 images** plus written evidence
- shows practice, experimentation and revision – **not** unrelated pieces

Build the portfolio as a **story**: image 1 states the question, the middle images **test and turn**, the late images **answer with authority**. Scorers read the **sequence**.

Practice, experimentation and revision

- **Practice** 练习 – repeated work to build **skill**
- **Experimentation** 实验 – trying new materials to **discover**
- **Revision** 修改 – changing work after **reflection or feedback**

Submit process images **on purpose**:
journal spreads and **revision pairs** make
the three actions undeniable.

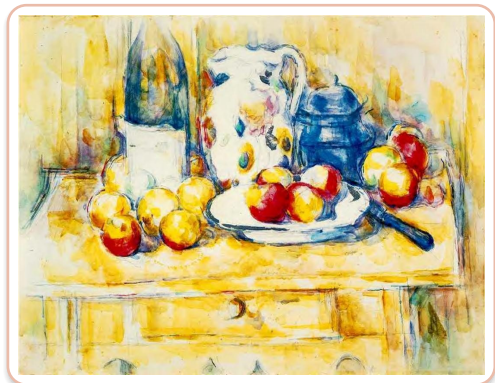
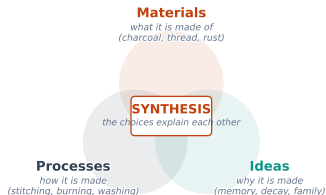


*Michelangelo
study: practice builds visible skill*

Synthesis of materials, processes and ideas

Synthesis 综合 is where the three **fuse**:
the whole becomes more than its parts.

Pick materials that **mean something** for
your question – and **say the link out
loud** in the written evidence.



*Cézanne: media, process and idea as one
whole*

2

Skills & craft

The six drawing skills the rubric names

mark-making 笔触

line

surface 画面质感

space

light and shade

composition

Audit your portfolio against all six – every one should appear **strongly somewhere**. One work can carry several: a figure in a lit interior shows **space, light and shade, and composition** at once.

Making the skills visible

A skill **only counts** if it is visible in the **submitted image** – photograph well, or the skill **disappears**.

“Good” portfolios show **competent** skills; a 5 shows **advanced** skills with **visual evidence** 视觉证据 everywhere.

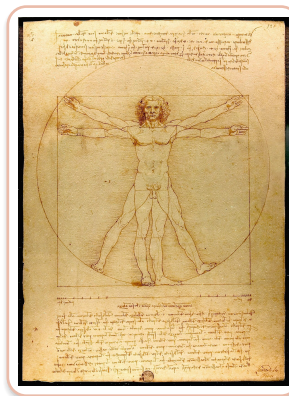
Audit at mid-year, not in April – the gaps you find **write your practice plan** while there is still time.

In written evidence, name skills with the **CED's own words**, so the scorer connects claim to image instantly.

Composition and craft

Craft 工艺 means **physical care**: clean margins, controlled smudging, flat paper. Composition applies the principles to organise the picture plane.

Craft should **serve the idea** – sometimes a rough handling is the **right** choice.



*Vitruvian Man:
proportion and composition as craft*

3

Development

Developing ideas over time

Development is visible when **later works build on discoveries** in earlier ones.

- new questions, materials or processes push it forward
- not every experiment succeeds – what did **not** work is **still valuable**

Never pad with lookalikes. Fifteen near-identical drawings read as **one idea repeated** – each variation must **move a variable**.

Worked example – showing development in writing

The Sustained Investigation is scored on evidence of *thinking*

“My first three drawings used even outlines; after critique showed they felt flat, I tested weighted and lost-and-found line in works 4–6, then in works 7–9 I let the edges dissolve entirely where the memory fades.”

Describing a **change** and the **reason** for it is how you demonstrate practice, experimentation and revision.

4

Recap

Topic 6 – key takeaways

1

A story

question, then test and turn, then answer – scorers read order

2

Six skills

mark-making, line, surface, space, light and shade, composition

3

Show process

journal spreads and revision pairs among the 15

4

No padding

each variation must move a variable, not repeat one

Check yourself

- 1 Name three of the six drawing skills.
- 2 Why can a skill you truly have still score nothing?
- 3 Fifteen near-identical drawings – what do scorers read?
- 4 When should you audit against the six skills?

Answers 1. any of: mark-making, line, surface, space, light and shade, composition
2. it is not visible in the image 3. one idea repeated 4. mid-year