

Critique Worksheet

Art 112 | 2D Design | Prof. Jacques

Artwork Specs

Artist Name:

Title:

Medium:

Dimensions:

Composition Analysis

What is the artwork Degree of Representation and why?

What are the Elements of Design used?

What are the Principles of Organization used?

How are the Elements of Design and Principles of Organization used?

Is the work harmonic, chaotic, energetic, melancholic, etc... Why?

Can you identify a focal point?

Does the work convey depth?

Describe how the artist visually achieved or not these characteristics in the composition.

Artwork Critique

Does the design achieve the proposed content (and subject matter)? Why and how?

What is the strongest aspect of the design?

What is the weakest aspect of the design?

Should anything be deleted?

Should anything be repeated?

Can the project be strengthened conceptually? How?

Can the project be strengthened technically? How?

Principles of Design

The principles of design describe the ways that artists use the elements of art in a work of art.



Balance is the distribution of the visual weight of objects, colors, texture, and space. If the design was a scale, these elements should be balanced to make a design feel stable. In symmetrical balance, the elements used on one side of the design are similar to those on the other side; in asymmetrical balance, the sides are different but still look balanced. In radial balance, the elements are arranged around a central point and may be similar.



Emphasis is the part of the design that catches the viewer's attention. Usually the artist will make one area stand out by contrasting it with other areas. The area could be different in size, color, texture, shape, etc.



Movement is the path the viewer's eye takes through the work of art, often to focal areas. Such movement can be directed along lines, edges, shape, and color within the work of art.



Pattern is the repeating of an object or symbol all over the work of art.



Repetition works with pattern to make the work of art seem active. The repetition of elements of design creates unity within the work of art.



Proportion is the feeling of unity created when all parts (sizes, amounts, or number) relate well with each other. When drawing the human figure, proportion can refer to the size of the head compared to the rest of the body.



Rhythm is created when one or more elements of design are used repeatedly to create a feeling of organized movement. Rhythm creates a mood like music or dancing. To keep rhythm exciting and active, variety is essential.



Variety is the use of several elements of design to hold the viewer's attention and to guide the viewer's eye through and around the work of art.



Unity is the feeling of harmony between all parts of the work of art, which creates a sense of completeness.

The Elements of Design (the tools to make art)	
Line	Horizontal, vertical, diagonal Straight, curved, dotted, broken Thick, thin
Shape	2D (two dimensional)/ flat Geometric (square, circle, oval, triangle) Organic (all other shapes)
Space	The area around, within, or between images or parts of an image Relates to perspective Positive and negative space
Value	The darkness or lightness of a color. White added to a color makes it a <i>tint</i> . Black added to a color makes it a <i>shade</i> .
Texture	The feel, appearance, thickness, or stickiness of a surface (for example: smooth, rough, silky, furry)
Colour	Refers to the wavelengths of light Refers to hue (name), value (lightness/darkness), intensity (saturation, or amount of pigment), and temperature (warm and cool) Relates to tint, tone and shade

This review sheet was edited from Wando High School and does not include Type.

The Principles of Design (how to use the tools to make art)	
Pattern	A regular arrangement of alternated or repeated elements (shapes, lines, colours) or motifs.
Contrast	The juxtaposition of different elements of design (for example: rough and smooth textures, dark and light values) in order to highlight their differences and/or create visual interest, or a focal point.
Emphasis	Special attention/importance given to one part of a work of art (for example, a dark shape in a light composition). Emphasis can be achieved through placement, contrast, colour, size, repetition... Relates to focal point.
Balance	A feeling of balance results when the elements of design are arranged symmetrically or asymmetrically to create the impression of equality in weight or importance.
Proportion/Scale	The relationship between objects with respect to size, number, and so on, including the relation between parts of a whole.
Harmony	The arrangement of elements to give the viewer the feeling that all the parts of the piece form a coherent whole.
Rhythm/Movement	The use of recurring elements to direct the movement of the eye through the artwork. There are five kinds of rhythm: random, regular, alternating, progressive, and flowing. The way the elements are organized to lead the eye to the focal area. Movement can be directed for example, along edges and by means of shape and colour.