

Annotations are written explanations or critical comments added to art or design work that record and communicate your thoughts.

Do's and don'ts of annotation

What to do

Do add labels which help explain your creative process, e.g. 'Initial Ideas', 'Thumbnail Compositional Studies', 'Exploring Negative Space.'

Do add details on techniques you might forget later, e.g. the stages you went through to achieve a particular print-making or drawing technique.

Do record your thoughts on the success of the work – what worked and what didn't.

Do reflect on the work of artists and designers you are influenced by and how this helped inform your ideas.

Do write down ideas about what you would like to try next, or if there is anything you could change to improve an idea or technique.

What not to do

Don't write very lengthy comments. At this stage, the purpose of annotation is to allow you to record your thoughts quickly so you can explore them later.

Don't annotate in a way that distracts attention from the work, e.g. by writing over an area of a drawing in large text.

Don't use annotations to label obvious things, e.g. 'oil pencil drawing of a bottle.'

RHS Art Dept.	Annotating Your Sketchbook Use these heading to explain each piece of work you have done in your book			
WHAT?	<u>What is it?</u> Explain the piece of work you are annotating Examples: This is a first-hand drawing that I made of aThis is a series of photographs I took			
	of This is a collection of visual research about This is information I gathered about This			
	is a copy that I made of a piece of artwork by This is a mood board ofto show ideas			
	relating			
WHY?	Why did you make it? Explain how this piece help you in your project.			
	Examples: to get ideas about to get me thinking about to show what I have learned			
	about to explore the ideas of to examine the shape/form/line/texture/pattern of to			
	analyse the style of to try out the technique of to practice to develop my skills in			
HOW?	How did you make it? Explain how you created the piece of work			
	Examples: I drew it using I painted it with I constructed it from I built it up by collaging			
	I photographed/drew it from life I drew/painted it from a photography I gathered the			
QUALITY	images from the internet I researched the information on a site called			
QUALITY	How good is it? What are you pleased with? What could you improve?			
	Examples: I am pleased with the way I one good element of the work is the best feature			
	of this work is a section of this work that is particularly successful isI'm not happy with one area I could improve is the least successful part of the work is I wish that I had			
LEARNING	What did you learn? What have you found out? What are the next steps?			
227 11111110	Examples: I improved my skills in I got better at working in the style of I have a better			
	idea of I have a clearer understanding of I feel more confident about Next I will try To			
	follow this up, I will To build on this piece of work I hope to			
	The same same same so that place of the same same			

	Vocabulary	
AO 1	Critical Understanding	Looking closely at how artists and designers communicate ideas, feeling and beliefs through their work. Your knowledge of the work of others should help you to develop your ideas, and this influence should be clear in your art.
AO 1	Sources	This is what inspires your art. The work of artists, the built environment, the natural world, music, literature, history, religion, traditions, politics etc.

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Biographical Information What is the name of your chosen artist?

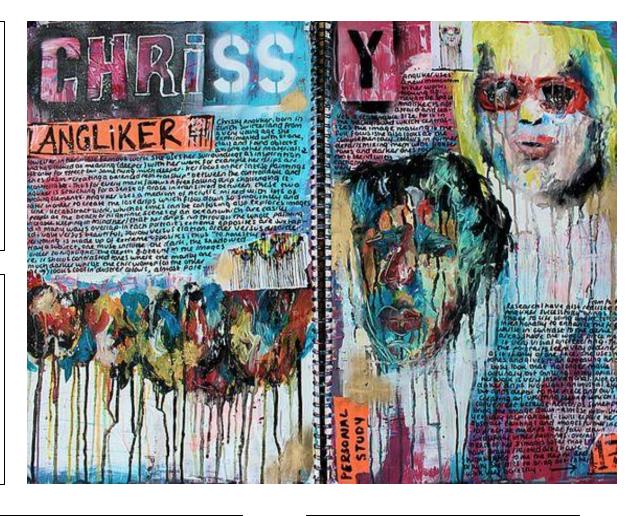
What year was he/she born and does the time have any contextual relevance to the art work? (was there anything happening at the time of the art work that may have been an influence) What is the title of the work? When was it made? How big is the art work? What is it made from (painting, drawing, sculpture etc.)?

Elements

How has the subject matter been arranged (composition)? What kind of colour scheme has been used? Is it subtle or vivid? Is there one overall shape or are there a sequence of shapes? Does the work have variety or unity of texture? Is the design of the work created by the use of recurring shapes, lines, rhythms, tones or forms? Does the colour predominate?

Media

How was the work made and what was it made from? What materials, tools, processes and techniques did the artist use? Do you think the artist needed to work quickly or slowly? What supporting studies do you think the artist needed to help develop the work.



Subject

What is the subject matter of the work? What is it about?

Was the subject matter based on direct observation, or was it invented or imagined by the artist? Was the intention to represent it realistically or to distort, exaggerate or abstract?

Intention

What was the artist's reason for making this work? What does he/she/want to say?

Does the work affect you in anyway? Why did you choose this particular art work? Does it capture or convey any feelings about life? Can you imagine what the artists feelings were when they produced this art work? How will you use this art work to influence your own art work?

Opinion

Always add you opinion of the artwork you have written about

Think SEMI

Reading, Writing and Communicating in Art

Other ways to say...

	6 1
Nice	Good
Agreeable	Excellent
Attractive	Amazing
Appealing	Wonderful
Pleasant	Favourable
Pleasing	Exceptional
Subtle	Fantastic
Lovely	Super
Refined	Outstanding
	Agreeable
Pretty	Boring
Beautiful	Uninspiring
Gorgeous	Dull
Appealing	Humdrum
Lovely	Monotonous
Pleasing	Tiresome
Attractive	Lacklustre
Elegant	Tedious
Graceful	Uninteresting
Stunning	Unexciting
Like	Bad
Admire	Awful
Approve	Terrible
Adore	Dreadful
Treasure	Dreadiul
Appreciate	Horrific
Respect	Unpleasant
Marvel	Grotesque
Enjoy	Ugly
Keen on	Oppressive
	Obbiessive
Dartial to	Disagraphle
Partial to	Disagreeable
Partial to	Disagreeable

Adding	Sequencing	Illustrating	Cause and Effect
and	first, second, third	for example	because
also	finally	such as	so
as well as	next	for instance	therefor
moreover	meanwhile	in the case of	thus
too	after	as revealed by	consequently
furthermore	then	illustrated by	hence
additionally	subsequently		
Comparing	Qualifying	Contrasting	Emphasising
similarly	but	whereas	above all
likewise	however	instead of	in particular
as with	although	alternatively	especially
like	unless	otherwise	significantly
equally	except	unlike	indeed
in the same way	apart from	on the other hand	notably
	as long as	as long as if	

Punctuation

- . Full stops A full stop shows that you have finished a sentence.
- ? Question marks A question mark is used to show when someone has asked a question.
- ! Exclamation marks An exclamation mark is used to show when something is surprising or forceful.
- , **Commas** Separating items in lists or clauses in a complex sentence.
- "Inverted commas Use inverted commas around something someone has said.
- 'Apostrophes Shows belong or missing letters like don't and can't
- ; **Semicolon** Joins together two clauses that could each be separate sentences.
- : Colon used to provide a pause before introducing related information

A simple sentence is called a clause.

Clauses

Some sentences can be broken up into smaller sentences. These simple sentences are called clauses.

Have you checked your work?

- Have I used an appropriate style with no slang, informal language or text speak?
- Is my work in paragraphs?
- Do my sentences start with capital letters and end in full stops?
- Are my quotations in inverted commas?
- Have I used capital letters for names and places?
- Have I used specialist vocabulary correctly?
- Have I checked that my sentences make sense and my meaning is clear?



COLOUR—Bright, dull, strong, bold, subtle, vivid, vibrant, light, dark, drab, deep, contrasting, hue, tint, shade, spectrum, rainbow, palette, colour-scheme, complementary, warm, cool, rich, pale, soft, hard, intense, pigment, tinge, wash, glowing, gaudy, garish, harsh, crude, lurid, loud, clashing, pastel, primary, secondary, tertiary, neutral, balanced, harmonious, opposite, related, clear, pure, muted, saturated, brilliant, symbolic, decorative, matching, sombre, subdued, restrained, limited, graded, faded, varied, monochrome

TONE—dense, dark, light, mid, hatched, crosshatched, blended, graduated, smudged, smooth, textured, rough, translucent, uneven, deep, shade, hue, moody, shadow, moulded, monochrome, soft, subtle, strong, contrasting, gradual, graded, sombre, high-key, low-key, limited, subdued, separate, distinct, clear, muted, range, restrained, varied, dull, highlight, half-tone, mid-tone, even, monotone.

The Visual/Formal Elements

SHAPE/FORM—Solid, geometric, regular, irregular, positive, negative, organic, natural, man-made, hard-edged, distinct, indistinct, rounded, circular, oval, triangular, spherical, square, angular, rectangular, oblong, oval, cubed, cylindrical, symmetrical, asymmetrical, flat, long, tall, deep, wide, narrow, pointed, bold, elegant, contour, silhouette, relief, profile, outline, figure, moulded, cast, deformed, carved, modelled, built, clearly-defined, distorted, sharp, concave, convex, hollow, bulbous, tubular, pointed, twisted, bent. 2D, 3D, scale, imposing, confident, vast, overpowering.

PATTERN—Decorative, rhythmic, applied, repeating, random, varied, regular, simple, complicated, natural, man-made, positive, negative, ornate, ornamental, bold, subtle, loose, tight, optical, kinetic, geometric, mechanical, organic, tartan, floral, chequered, polkadot, cross-hatching, Dots, dashes, lines, stripes, circles, squares, triangles, symbols, squiggles, splashes, dribbles, motifs.

SPACE—relationship, special, gaps, positive, negative, line, squint, foreground, mid ground, background, perspective, focal point, lead-in, vanishing point, distance, fore-shortening, in-front, behind, next to, adjacent, receding, prominent, illusion.

LINE—straight, curvy, undulating, vertical, horizontal, thoughtful, meandering, zigzag, diagonal, overlapping, dense, solid, delicate, confident, sensitive, uneven, aggressive, transparent, tentative, thin, hatched, simple, repetitive, crosshatched, bold, translucent, single, disturbing, complex, detailed.

TEXTURE—Feel, touch, fine, smooth, rounded, rough, soft, hard, coarse, shiny, furry, bumpy, rippled, wrinkly, crinkly, jagged, scaly, silky, uneven, hairy, indented, scratched, scraped, ragged, grainy, ribbed, grooved, pitted, notched, woven, raised, dusty, gritty, crumbly, abrasive, cracked, velvety, spongy, waxy, greasy, surface, tactile, spiky, fleecy

COMPOSITION—focal point, triangular, perspective, height, depth compose, evolve, organise, create, place, collect, deduct, include, analyse, cluttered, complex, enlarge, focus, viewfinder, simple, cascade, busy, overlapping, harmonious, layered, thumbnail, arrangement.

The visual or formal elements in art are what artist use to describe visually. This means, what we use and how we make a visual image. The visual or formal elements are colour, line, tone, pattern, shape, form, texture and composition



Assessment Objective 2
Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.



1	Skills	Techniques
	Drawing	Pencil, pen, charcoal, chalk, dip pen, colour pencils
	Painting	Acrylic, oil, watercolour, gouache
	Printmakin g	Mono print, etching, lino, collagraph, press print
	Sculpture	Wire, clay, card relief, paper sculpture
	Textiles Silk painting, batik, machine stich, embroidery, sublimation	
	Photograp hy	Digital, darkroom, physical, post processing

Refine	Making small improvements to your work after evaluating. Experimenting with different materials and techniques appropriate to your idea as your work progresses.		
Media	Materials used to create a work of art.		
Materials	The same as media but can also refer to the basis of the art work e.g., canvas, paper, clay		
Techniques	The method used to complete the art work, can be generic such as painting or more focus such as blending		
Processes	The method used to create artwork that usually follows a range of steps rather than just one skill		

Experimenting with materials will help you decide on your strengths and which techniques you would like to develop in your portfolio and assignment.



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Refinement is the improvement of the idea. It does not involve radical changes, but is about making small changes which improve the idea in some way. This might be done by:

- Modification of the composition e.g. replacing one object with another or changing a pose slightly
- Variation of a technique e.g. trying oil pastel rather than painting to achieve an expressive style
- Adaptation of the idea e.g. including some detail in the foreground of a landscape to add more depth and distance
- Alteration of an aspect e.g. arranging objects in a triangular composition instead of a linear grouping, or changing the colour of the sky in a coastal scene to achieve a more dramatic atmosphere
- Enhancing an element of the idea e.g. improving the application of a particular technique, or harmonising the background colours with other aspects of the composition
- Fine-tuning a technique or an aspect of the composition.
- Tweaking the positioning of a subject to make the composition more balanced, or to create more tension, as appropriate.



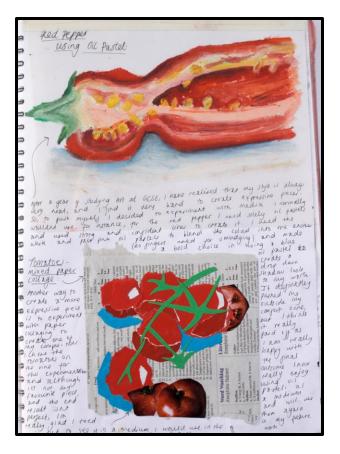
Why experiment?

Experimenting with different materials is a good way to develop different visual elements in your project and to try out different effects

Understanding the properties of different materials and how they might be used can help you make effective choices in art and design work.

Thake creative risks. Don't be afraid to experiment or work out of your comfort zone. Even if something is unsuccessful, you will have shown that you have tried and learned valuable lessons. Happy accidents can lead to exciting opportunities

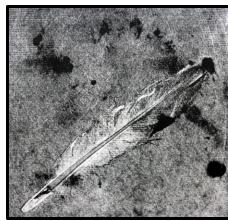
Choosing different materials and technique will affect the style of your work, and help you plan more effectively. Try different materials to find out which you enjoy working with, and which produce effects you are interested in, and which ones are more suitable to present personal and meaningful intentions.



Mixed media

Using a combination of different media gives you more ways to express yourself. This may be as simple as combining drawing and painting or creating a background of different papers to work over with paint or ink.











Assessment Objective 3
Record ideas,
observations and
insights relevant to
intentions as work
Progresses.

Recording and observing

Recording your ideas, observations and insights will help your creative process. You can do this visually, through writing or by using other media.

Methods of Drawing & Recording

Observational drawing	Drawing from looking at images or objects	
First hand observation	Drawing directly from looking at objects in front of you	
Second hand observation	Drawing from looking at images of objects, photographs.	
Sketches	Basic sketches and doodles can act as a starting point for development	
Photographs	Using a camera or smartphone to record images will be classed as first hand observation	





Recording to develop ideas

When recording to develop your ideas you could produce:

- analytical sketches and studies of visual elements from primary and secondary sources
- studies of artists' or designers' work and their working methods
- rubbings, prints or photographs that record texture, contrasting surfaces, pattern, tone or form
- maquettes or models in paper, card, clay or found objects and materials that explore form, structure or scale
- experimental studies in different media exploring what effects you can create
- · collections of images as a mood board
- organised sequences of images and studies to show how your ideas have progressed

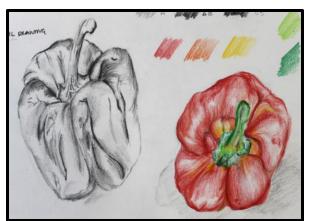
Using photography and video

Photography or video can be used to record the progress of one piece of work, or your whole project. You could then reflect upon the process that you have gone through by:

- producing additional experiments or studies
- annotating alongside digital images or printouts of your images
- adding a spoken commentary to a video piece or slideshow

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When developing a theme you should record your ideas and observations at very stage, making sure you reflect and evaluate as you progress.

You can record in a number of ways:

- Sketches, thumbnail sketches, line drawing, traditional drawing and mark making.
- Photographs make sure to take your own and annotate.
- Experimenting with media.
- Presenting evidence of gallery/exhibitions you have been to as well as artist research from the internet of books

Look back at what you have achieved and think how this can help your next steps.

Why do analytical drawing? drawing can include contour drawings that describe outlines and basic forms of your subject. The more you look at your subject matter, the better your drawing will be. When you are making a closely-observed drawing you should spend more time looking than you do drawing. Remember to look carefully at:

- shapes
- spaces
- relationships between objects or parts of your composition
- light and shadows
- texture
- key details
- the whole



Assessment Objective 4 Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language







To effectively present your project you need to show how you have developed ideas, refined your work, recorded your process and created a personal and meaningful response.

In presenting your personal intentions and response, you need to show you have met all the assessment objectives in each component.

Although you can attempt the assessment objectives in any order, it is generally a good idea to work methodically through a project, so that you can keep track of your progress against all the objectives.

Personal Response

- demonstrate what the starting point, theme or brief means to you personally.
- · establish links between the starting point and your chosen sources?
- Show links between your sources and your own work?
- Present ideas or techniques from your sources that support your developed
- selected and presented your studies carefully.
- made clear links between your work and that of other contextual reference.
- collected images to show your inspiration and stimuli?
- present evidence of drawing, sketching, photographs and experiments with different media?
- annotate images to explain how they fit into your development process?
- · demonstrated your understanding through correct use of art and design vocabulary?
- shown experimentation and selection of the most successful results for your project?
- organised your recordings and presented them to show and explain vour decisions?
- clearly linked all of your work to your starting point?
- Clearly link your final piece with your preparatory work.
- Make sure your final piece links to your artist or designer research.
- Finish all of your preparatory work before you start your final piece it's worth a lot more marks.
- Make sure your personal response isn't simply a larger version of your preparatory work.
- Review and refine your ideas so that you are completely happy with them.
- Complete your experiments with materials, composition and construction so that you feel in control of what you are doing before you start your final piece.
- Evaluate.



GCSE Art, Craft, Design Photography Marks	Assessment Objective 1 (AO1) RESEARCH – IMAGES & ARTISTS Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding	Assessment Objective 2 (AO2) EXPERIMENTS WITH MEDIA Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops	Assessment Objective 3 (AO3) IDEAS, OBSERVATIONAL DRAWINGS & EXPLANATIONS Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress	Assessment Objective 4 (AO4) FINAL IDEA & FINAL PIECE, LINKS w. ARTISTS Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements
24 Convincingly 23 Clearly 22 Adequately 21 Just	An exceptional ability to effectively develop ideas through creative and purposeful investigations. An exceptional ability to engage with and demonstrate critical understanding of sources.	An exceptional ability to thoughtfully refine ideas with discrimination. An exceptional ability to effectively select and purposefully experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.	An exceptional ability to skillfully and rigorously record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.	An exceptional ability to competently present a personal and meaningful response and realise intentions with confidence and conviction. An exceptional ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.
20 Convincingly 19 Clearly 18 Adequately 17 Just	A highly developed ability to effectively develop ideas through creative and purposeful investigations. A highly developed ability to demonstrate critical understanding of sources.	A highly developed ability to thoughtfully refine ideas. A highly developed ability to effectively select and purposefully experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.	A highly developed ability to skillfully record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.	A highly developed ability to competently present a personal and meaningful response and realise intentions with confidence and conviction. A highly developed ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.
16 Convincingly 15 Clearly 14 Adequately 13 Just	A consistent ability to effectively develop ideas through purposeful investigations. A consistent ability to demonstrate critical understanding of sources.	A consistent ability to thoughtfully refine ideas. A consistent ability to effectively select and purposefully experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.	A consistent ability to skillfully record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.	A consistent ability to competently present a personal and meaningful response and realize intentions. A consistent ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.
12 Convincingly 11 Clearly 10 Adequately 9 Just	A moderate ability to effectively develop ideas through purposeful investigations. A moderate ability to demonstrate critical understanding of sources.	A moderate ability to thoughtfully refine ideas. A moderate ability to effectively select and purposefully experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.	A moderate ability to skillfully record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.	A moderate ability to competently present a personal and meaningful response and realize intentions. A moderate ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.
8 Convincingly 7 Clearly 6 Adequately 5 Just	Some ability to develop ideas through purposeful investigations. Some ability to demonstrate critical understanding of sources.	Some ability to refine ideas. Some ability to select and experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.	Some ability to record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.	Some ability to present a personal and meaningful response and realize intentions. Some ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.
4 Convincingly 3 Clearly 2 Adequately 1 Just	Minimal ability to develop ideas through investigations. Minimal ability to demonstrate critical understanding of sources.	Minimal ability to refine ideas. Minimal ability to select and experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.	Minimal ability to record ideas, observations and insights through drawing and annotation, and any other appropriate means relevant to intentions, as work progresses.	Minimal ability to present a personal and meaningful response and realize intentions. Minimal ability to demonstrate understanding of visual language.

Component One: Portfolio The portfolio is made up of preparatory studies leading to a fully resolved response, or group of responses. The portfolio represents 60% of the final mark.

Component Two: Externally Set Assignment - ESA

The externally set assignment is based on preparatory study that leads to a ten hour period of sustained focus in which you will produce a response to a chosen theme, brief, problem or task. This assignment represents 40% of your final mark.

In presenting your personal intentions and response, you need to show you have met all the assessment objectives in each component.