



GCSE FINE ART (AQA)

Course Structure.

Throughout year 10 you will be set two small projects that will allow you to explore media, a range of artist techniques and the visual elements.

After this you will start your sustained (longer) project that will finish at the start of year 11. You will choose the topic of this project from a list of suggested themes.

Each week you will be expected to complete homework tasks that will improve your portfolio of work.

Learning Cycle 1: Natural Forms

Cycle 1 Homework:

1. AO3 Natural forms mind map
2. AO1 Peter Randall-Page research page
3. Complete your EBI feedback comments
4. AO3 Drawings and Photographs of natural forms
5. AO2 Improve one of your drawings to a higher standard.

Year 10

Component 1:

Create a portfolio containing at least 2 projects.

Natural Forms and a sustained project.



Year 11

Component 2:

Exam project

January 2025 AQA externally set paper given to you.

You choose a theme to respond to (create a project from your chosen theme -word).

10 hour exam.

How are both GCSE Fine Art components marked?

(AO1)

RESEARCH

Artist Research and the development of the project

24 Marks

(AO2)

EXPERIMENT

Own trials and how you develop and refine your ideas

24 Marks

(AO3)

IDEAS

Drawings, photographs, annotations

24 Marks

(AO4)

RESPOND

A personal and meaningful final piece

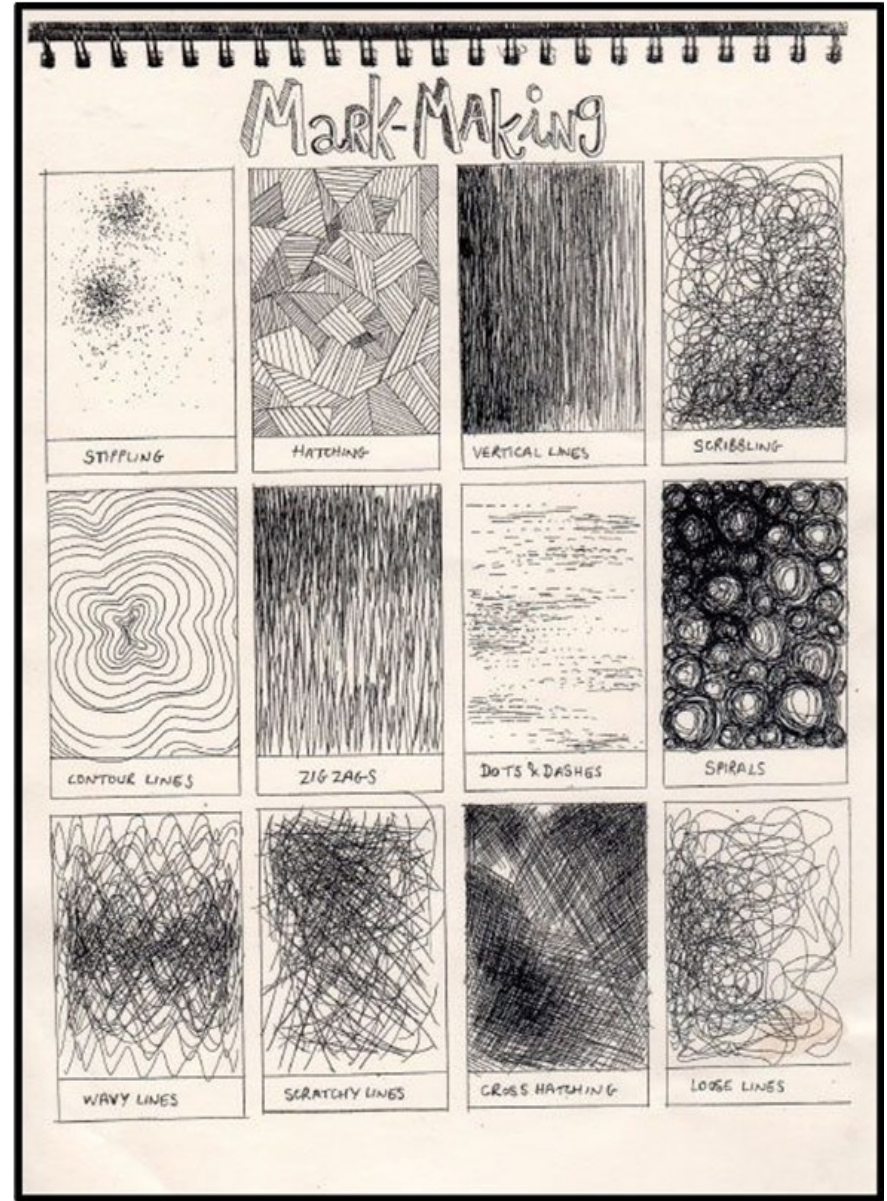
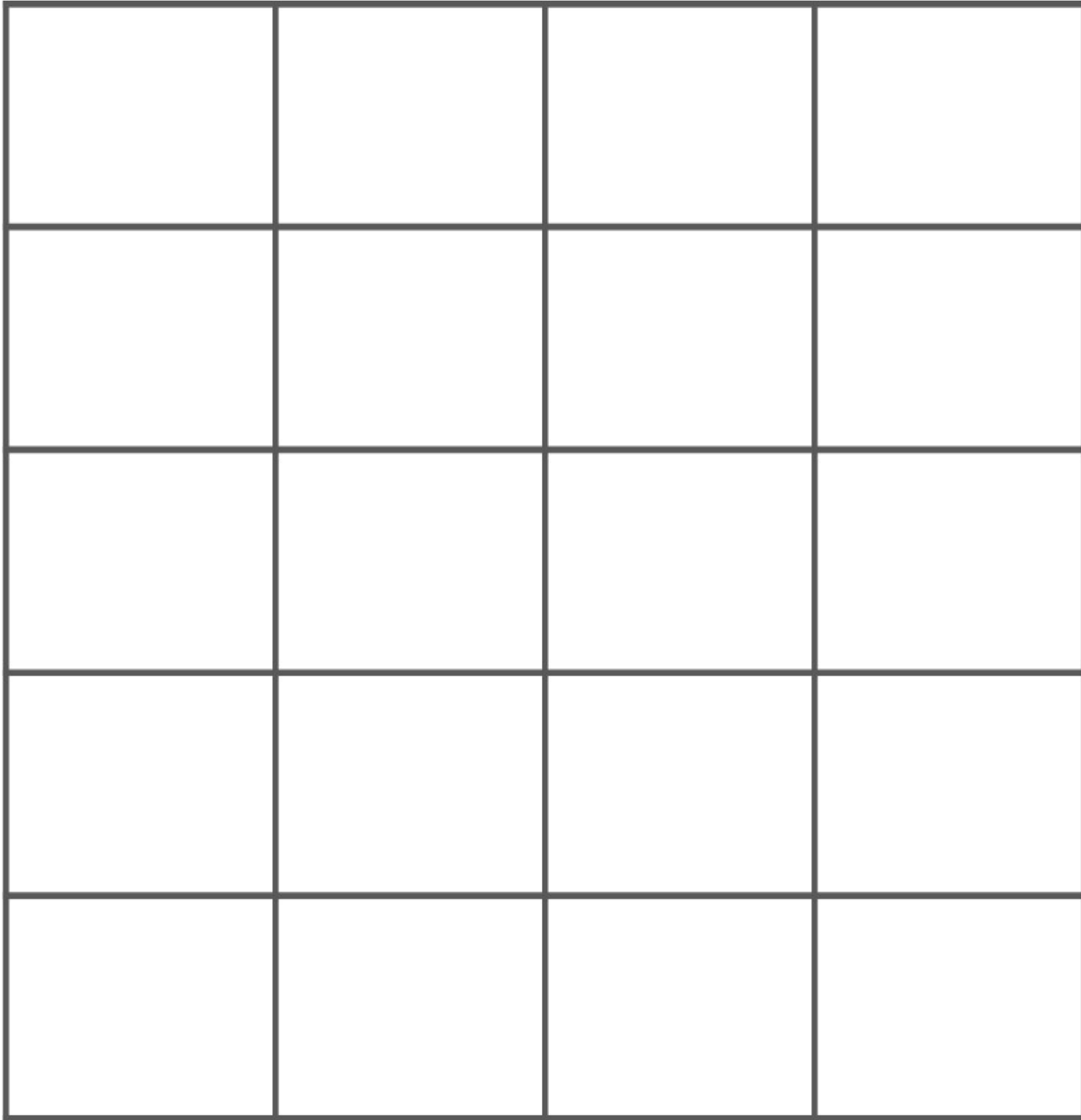
24 Marks

Grade boundaries June 2018

9=81 8=74 7=68 6=61 5=54 4=47 3=34 2=21 1=9



NATURAL FORM EXAMPLES

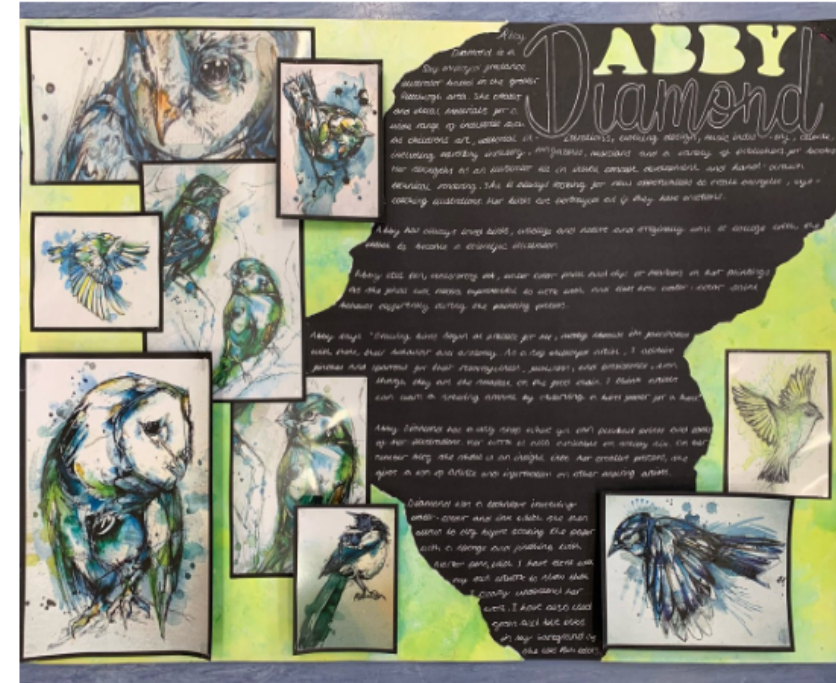


Artist Research

Your page doesn't need to be 'fancy' or 'pretty' but it must show an understanding of the artists work. For example if they only use black ink consider doing a title and background in ink. Ensure you have left space for everything on the page.

You must include...

- Artist Copies
- Creative Title
- Key analysis
- Own opinion
- Printed images
- Creative composition



RESEARCH (AO1)

EXPERIMENT (AO2)

IDEAS (AO3)

RESPOND (AO4)

Fine Art: Learning Cycle 1

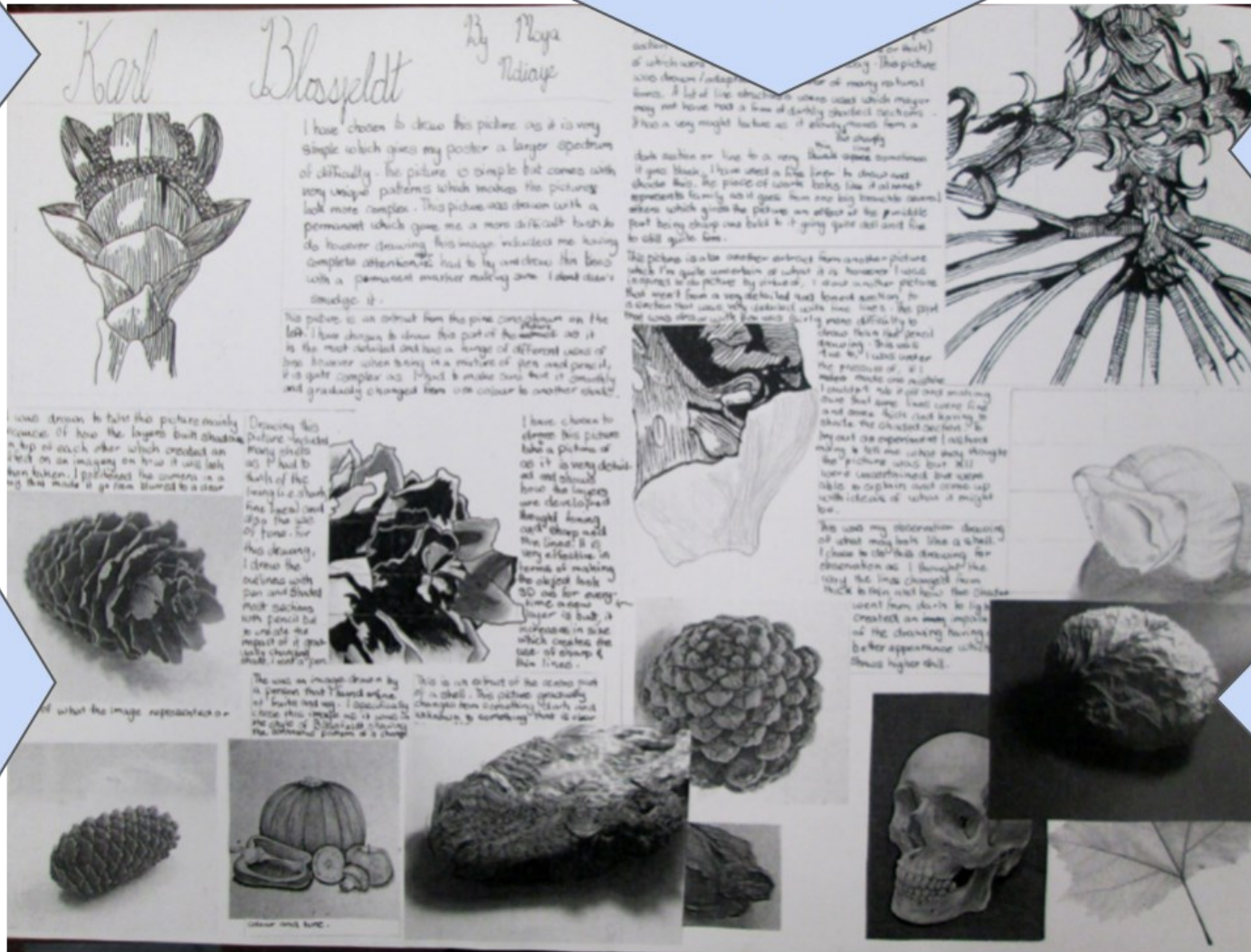
Small title as the focus is on the analysis and artist copies

Full artist analysis and own opinion

High quality artist copies

Small images (own photographs, sketches and google images)

Overlapped composition



Fine Art: Learning Cycle 1

TEACHER EXAMPLE

Ester Roi was born and raised in Vicenza, Italy. Her art is characterised by an ongoing fascination with natural objects and she specialises in wax-based drawing media, mostly oil pastels and colour pencils. Ester Roi has an extensive list of achievements and has exhibited widely across the United States, where she now resides and continues to create artwork. The way she achieves her brilliant, vibrant colours is by using 'the Icarus Board' which she herself has invented. It's a drawing board that heats up, and melts the waxy pigments that she uses, creating smooth and vibrant pieces of art. Ester's process consists of a combination of drawing and painting as she alternates between working on cool and warm paper using the heated drawing board that she invented. She takes her own photos to use as a reference, but prefers to work directly from a computer monitor versus a printed photo as she says it allows for more freedom during the 'painting' phase as she can adjust the colours and values.

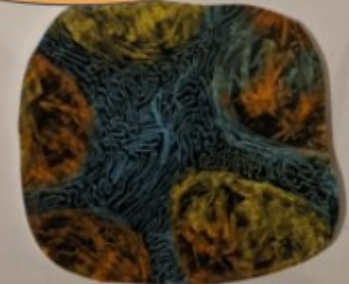


She quotes "I'm not a great photographer but I compensate by taking hundreds of shots."



A lot of Ester's work is based around natural forms in or under water, she says that water represents the world of fantasy and imagination, where anything can happen and the unusual is never questioned. The next step for me will be to photograph my stones under water and decide how to best recreate them. I was hugely inspired by Ester Roi's use of bright colours and subject matter and am lucky enough to have found inspiration myself from stones I found at Swan Lake Bay in Wales - photographed opposite.

I have replicated a section one of Ester Roi's pieces 'Fire and Ice' as this piece reminds me of the scratching technique of sgraffito. I used oil pastels and achieved texture by using a screwdriver, and a nail for finer lines. I feel the black is a bit harsh for this piece, and think dark blue as a top layer would be more in keeping with Ester's colour palette. I am keen to find other tools and experiment with different marks to further explore this technique.



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A lot of Ester's work is based around natural forms in or under water, she says that water represents the world of fantasy and imagination, where anything can happen and the unusual is never questioned. The next step for me will be to photograph my stones under water and decide how to best recreate them. I was hugely inspired by Ester Roi's use of bright colours and subject matter and am lucky enough to have found inspiration myself from beautifully detailed stones I found at Swan Lake Bay in Wales - photographed opposite.

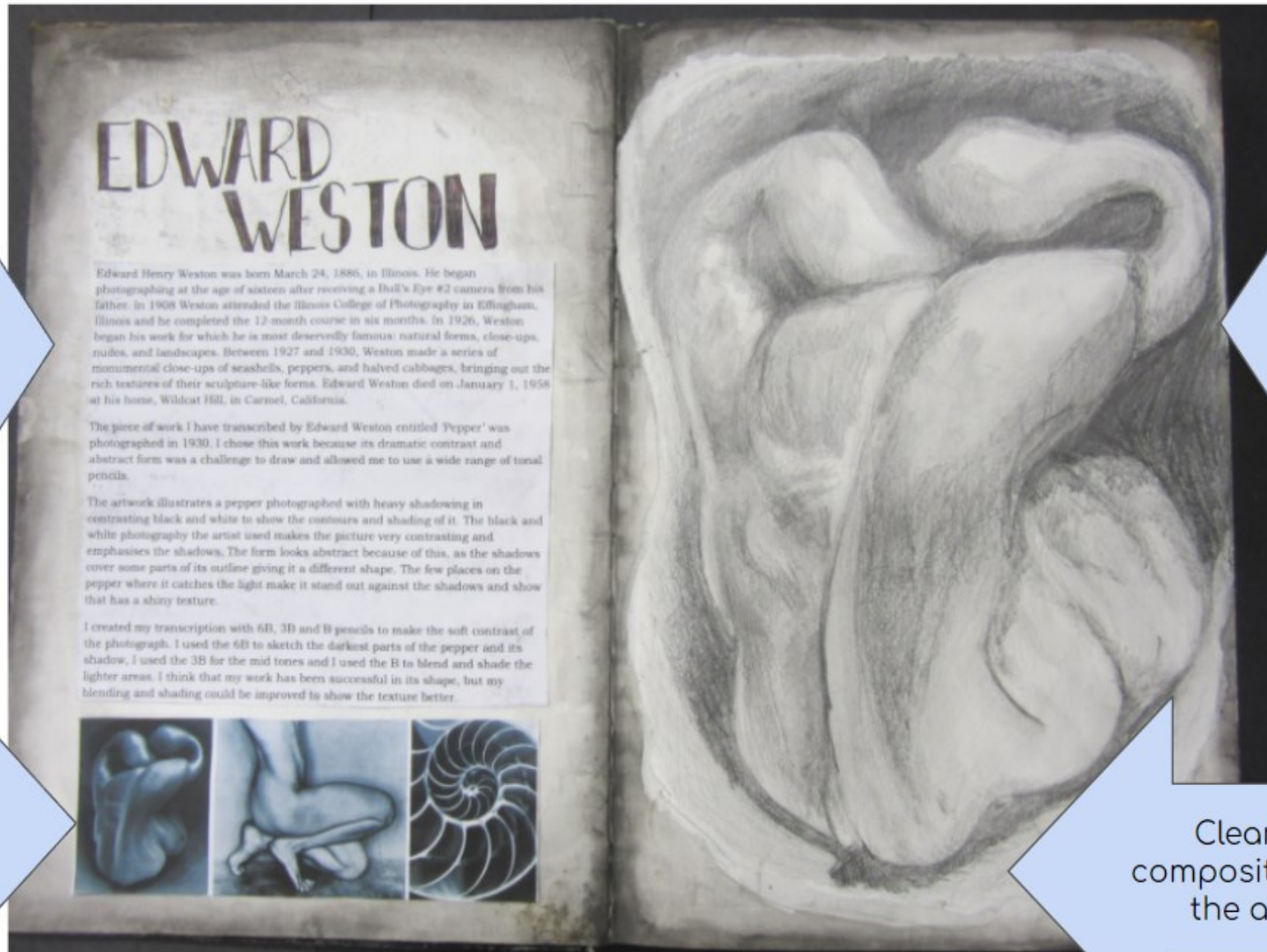
Fine Art: Learning Cycle 1

Decorative lettering that fits with the style of the page

The whole page has been considered- background colours and corner drawings



Pencil and paint artist copies- this will show a range of materials



Full typed analysis and opinion

Printed artist picture

Large artist copy using the appropriate materials

Clear and neat composition- similar to the artists work

2x artist
copies using
collage

Full analysis
and opinion

Google artist
images

Decorative
lettering that fits
with the style of
the page

Black and
white
composition



Fine Art: Learning Cycle 1

1. Who Where & When?

- Whose work are you looking at?
- What inspired the artist to create their artwork?
- Where and when did they live? Are they still alive?
- Is the work you are looking at a landscape, portrait or abstract painting? Is it a sculpture, a photograph or film? Is it a drawing or textile piece?

2. What is the work about?

- Describe the artwork as if you are telling someone who cannot see it.
- What is the work about?
- Does the work create a mood? Does it feel happy or sad or busy and energetic? Explain why or why not?
- Stick in other examples of the artist's work. Label examples.

3. How was it made?

- Is there a lot colour (dark or light, warm or cold)? Are there any textures or patterns? What is the main focus of the work?
- What do you see first when you look at this work? What do you notice? (Line, Tone, Texture, Colour, Form/Shape, Pattern).
- What technique has the artist used to create their work?

4. Your opinion

- Why have you chosen to look at this work?
- What do you like about the work and why?
- Is there anything you don't like about the work?
- How does the work inspire you? Does it give you some ideas to create your own work?

AO1: Critical analysis
3-4

Include an example of the artwork you are analysing. Label clearly in this order: Artists Name and Surname, *The title of the piece in italics*, year it was created, medium used (e.g. oil paint).
 Above: Emma Wesley, Johnson Gideon Beharry, 2006, acrylic on canvas.

1. Context (Where & When)

- **Artists life:** What inspired and influenced the artist?
- **Genre:** What category of artwork is the piece? e.g. Landscape, portrait sculpture.

What art movement or time period is the work from? E.g. surrealism, contemporary.
 How was the artist's work affected by events of the time?

2. Subject & Meaning

- **Subject:** Describe the artwork as if you are telling someone who cannot see it.
- **Content:** What is the work about?
- **Theme:** Do you think the work has a theme? For example relationships, social documentary, identity, environment etc.
- **Message:** What mood or message is created? Does it have a symbolic or moral meaning?
- **Comparisons:** Compare the piece you are analysing with another of the artist's work. What is the effect of changes to colour schemes/compositions?

3. Composition & Techniques

- **Composition:** How are things arranged/structured? What effect does the layout or structure have on the work? (colour, pattern, position of subject matter).
- **Visual elements:** How is your eye lead around the page/structure? What do you notice? Line, Tone, Texture, Colour, Form/Shape, Pattern.
- **Technique:** What process/technique has the artist used to create their work? What do you think to the effect it creates?

4. Personal response

- **Selection:** Explain how this image links within your own project theme? Why have you selected it?
- **Reaction:** What was your first reaction to the work? What did you first notice? What mood or feeling was created?
- **Inspiration:** Explain how the work has inspired you? What will you develop within your own work based on this piece e.g. exploring an issue the work portrays in more depth.

AO1: Critical analysis
 5-6

Include an example of the artwork you are analysing. Label clearly in this order: Artists Name and Surname, *The title of the piece in italics*, year it was created, medium used (e.g. oil paint).
Above: Emma Wesley, Johnson Gideon Beharry, 2006, acrylic on canvas.

1. Context

- **Artists life:** Research and explain what inspired and influenced the artist.
- **Genre/Art History:** What category of artwork is the work? e.g. Landscape, portrait sculpture. Where does it's date of creation sit within events in history/art movements? Does it link to any social, cultural or political circumstances of the time?
- **Compare:** Compare this piece to another artwork of the time to discuss and reflect on the artist's intentions and realisations.

2. Composition & Techniques

- **Composition:** Orientation (portrait/landscape). How are things arranged/structured? What effect/intent does this emphasise?
- **Visual elements:** How is your eye lead around the page/structure? What do you notice? Line, Tone, Texture, Colour, Form/Shape, Pattern.
- **Process/Technique** : What process/technique has the artist used to create their work. Does this add another quality to their work?

3. Subject & Meaning

- **Subject:** Describe the artwork concisely as if you are telling someone who cannot see it.
- **Content:** What is the work about? What is the main subject? Consider the inclusion or exclusion of details surrounding the main subject.
- **Theme:** Do you think the work has a theme? For example relationships, social documentary, identity, environment etc.
- **Implied Message:** What mood or message is created? Does it have a symbolic or moral meaning? Is there a narrative? Does the work reveal or conceal something?
- **Comparisons:** What are the titles of other works on this theme by the same artist? Compare the works.

4. Personal response

- **Selection:** Explain how this image links within your own project theme? Why have you selected it?
- **Reaction:** What was your first reaction to the work? What did you first notice? What mood or feeling was created?
- **Inspiration:** How could you use this piece as a starting point within your own work? Explain how the work has inspired you? What will you develop within your own work based on this piece e.g. exploring an issue the work portrays in more depth.

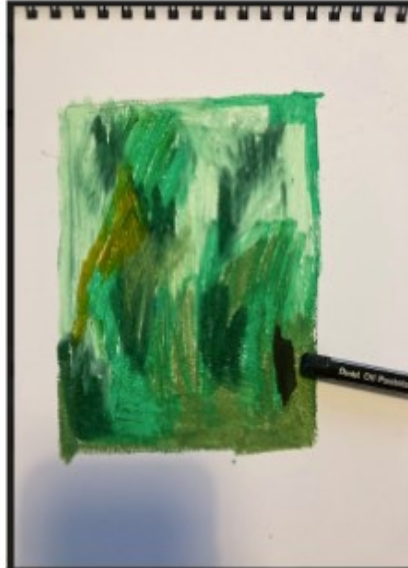
AO1: Critical analysis
7+

What is Sgraffito?

Sgraffito' is Italian for scratch and this technique was historically used in plaster work and ceramics where two layers of different colour were laid down and the top layer scratched or scraped back to reveal the colour below. Use the same technique to create abstract patterns or simple still lives with oil pastel.



Add your colour layer (1-4 colours)



Find a darker colour for the top black/brown/navy.



Be careful adding this top layer and ensure it is neat.



Use your tool to lightly mark the outside shape and decide which parts will be colour/ dark



Use a piece of scrap paper to lean on so you don't have pastel on your hands.