



Hoe Valley Sixth Form

Dear student,

Over the summer we want you to complete the following tasks below to help you make a successful transition from GCSE to Sixth Form study. Our summer transition work includes the following 3 elements to help you feel like a pro when your sixth form journey begins!

Preparation

Below are some tasks that will help to introduce you to knowledge required for the start of the course or to consolidate key GCSE level material.

Visit a gallery or exhibition of your choice and complete a written evaluation of your visit on a mount board (minimum A3). Your board could include the following:

- Photographs/ sketches of the gallery from the outside
- Examples of postcards and/or any hand-outs collected.
- Written comments about your experience of the exhibition e.g. what are your first impressions of the gallery? What does the space look like? Does the way the gallery looks, make you feel differently about the photography on display?
- Carry out a photo-shoot that takes inspiration from an artist/ photographer you have seen. *You may copy the style, technique and or imagery.*
- Complete a written analysis of the piece of work using the following headings:

Content

What is the subject matter of the work, what is it about? Is the subject matter incidental or is it a vehicle for the social, religious, moral or political concerns of the artist or client? Was the subject matter observed directly, remembered or imagined? Has it been treated representationally or is there deliberate exaggeration, distortion or abstraction, if so why? Is the subject matter surface deep or are there hidden, or not immediately apparent, meanings alluded to through the use of, for example symbol, analogy, metaphor?

Form

How has the work been arranged? You will need to talk about composition here. Is this in keeping with the content? Does it contradict or affirm the works 'message'? What kind of scheme has been used? Is it, for example, a harmonious one or built up of contrasts? Does one colour predominate or do two or more have equal significance? Is there one main overall shape or is it composed through interrelating sequences of shapes? Are there recurring shapes, lines, rhythms, forms, which determine the design of the work? Does the work have variety or unity of texture? Does the work hold together an overall entity or is it pleasing in parts and yet unsatisfactory as a whole?

Process

How was the work made and what is it made with? What materials, tools, processes and techniques did the artist/photographer use? How and where might the artist/photographer commenced the work? Through what stages did the work proceed from commencement to completion? What skills must the photographer have required to produce the piece?

Mood

Does the work affect you, the viewer in any way? Does it capture a mood, feeling or emotion which you have already experienced? Does it convey feelings about life and nature? Can you imagine what the artist's feelings were while producing the work? Is the work quiet/noisy, soothing/disturbing, happy/sad, relaxed/jarring etc. in the mood which it conveys and the feelings it arouses? Is your mood simply the one of the moment or has the work in question directly affected you?

Create a minimum of three observational portrait drawings in any medium of your choice. Please do not monoprint or trace. Aim to work from first hand, direct observation rather than from a photograph. Remember flaws and imperfections will give your work character!

Reading

Below is some essential reading material or some titles that will help you to read around your subject and develop a deeper understanding of the subject, a crucial skill for success in the Sixth Form.

Five Hundred Self-Portraits, Bell, J (2004)

Tate Modern the Handbook Tate Publishing

A History of the 21st Century Art

Women Artists and the Surrealist Movement, Chadwick, W (1991)

Theories of Modern Art, Chipp, H B (1992)

This is Modern Art, Collings, M (2000)

Organisation

Below are tasks to help you to be organised with your work when you start in September. You will be completing a huge amount of work and to be successful you must keep on top of everything!

We will be working on a sketchbook so it is essential that you always have your work and that your chromebook is with you and that it is fully charged.

You will be supplied with a basic kit with your own sketchbook, paints, and fine art materials. This equipment needs to be with you each lesson.