**LOOKING AT ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK**

When annotating you need to try and make your written work as creative as your drawings and present it in a way that is as visually stunning as your work.

**KEYWORDS**

**Describe the Artwork**

* Describe the artwork as if you were describing it to someone with a blind-fold on
* What is the subject matter? Is it realistic or abstract?
* What kind of shapes can you find in the painting or sculpture? Are they curved, straight, sharp or pointed? What effects do they create?
* What sense or illusion of space or depth do you find in the artwork? Or is there none?
* What kind of marks does the artist use? What effect do they have?
* What colours does the artist use? Why do you think s/he used these colours? How are they organised? What effects do they create?
* What is the surface like? What kind of textures can you see? What effects do they create?
* How big is the work? Why is it this size? Would its meaning change if it was bigger or smaller?

ABSTRACT

REALISTIC

PAINTING

SCULTPURE

COMPOSITION

3-DIMENSIONAL

FORM

TEXTURE

SPACE

MARK-MAKING

HARMONIOUS

COMPLIMENTARY

CONTRAST

BRIGHT

CHIAROSCURO

ETHEREAL

RECYLCLED

COLLAGE

CONSTRUCTION

ACRYLIC PAINT

OIL PAINT WATERCOLOUR PAINT

SILK-PAINTING

LINO PRINTING

SCREEN PRINTING

OIL PASTEL

SOFT PASTEL

CHARCOAL & CHALK

WOOD BLOCK PRINT

PROCESS

COMPOSITION

TECHNIQUE

**Materials and Processes**

* What materials is the work made of? Are they traditional art materials or ‘found’ materials? How would your response to the work change if the artist used a different material? What associations or connotations do the materials carry?
* How has the work been made? Has the artist made it from scratch or has it been assembled by the artist from found objects?
* Do you think the artist took photos/ did preliminary drawings?
* What kinds of skills were involved? What changes might have occurred to the piece while it was being made?
* How visible or invisible is the process of its making? If it is an installation, how has it been assembled? If it is a video piece, how was it filmed and how is it projected?
* How is the work composed, organised or put together?

**Personal Reaction to Artwork**

* What are your first reactions to the work? Why does it make you feel or think like that?
* What does the work remind you of? Why does it remind you of that?
* What can you connect the work to? For example, TV, cinema, music, places you’ve visited, experiences you’ve had.

RESPONSE

EMOTIVE

REMINISCENT

SYMBOLIC

INSPIRED

CONNOTATION

ASSOCIATION

LINK

**Key words to help:**

• Media – dry (pencil, charcoal, chalk etc) or wet (paint, ink etc)

• Formal elements – Pattern, shape, tone, texture, colour, line.

• Form, space, area, scale, proportion, perspective

• Blending, shading, harmonising, balance, rhythm, motion, composition.

• Mark making, cross hatching, etching, sketching, drawing

**Useful words:**

Create, analyse, evaluate, explore. Experiment, investigate, develop, compare, refine, adapt, consider, interpret, convey, apply, and combine, express.

EXCITES

INSPIRES

CONCEPT

TECHNIQUE

PROCESS

MOTIVATION

**Implications for my Own Artwork**

* What have you learnt from analysing this Artist’s work?
* What particularly interests or inspires you about this Artist’s work?
* Do you want to follow the same ideas, inspiration or concept as this artist in your own work?
* What particular effect/technique/idea/ materials that the artist has used do you want to use in your own work?

CONNECTIONS

CONTEXT

SOCIAL

HISTORICAL

POLITICAL

ENVIRONMENT

MOVEMENTS

TIME PERIOD

RELEVANCE

REASONING

COMMUNICATE

CONNECTIONS

MESSAGES

MOTIVATION

**Context of the Artwork**

(for this section you will need to do some research (online or manual) into the artist, the meanings and purposes behind their artwork and the context of the artwork i.e- what was going on in the world at that time?, What was the artist’s experience of life and culture that may have influenced their art?)

* When was the work made? Can we make any connections between the work and the time period in which it was made?
* Where was it made? Does the work tell us anything about the place/ Culture in which it was made?
* Who made it? What do we know about the artist? Who was it made for?
* Did it have a meaning or symbolise anything?
* Can you relate it to the social and political history of the time?
* How does the work relate to other areas of knowledge, for example, science, geography, mathematics, or ecology?
* How do people view the work today? Is it the same or different from how it might have originally been seen?

SUBJECT MATTER

REPRESENTATION

COMMUNICATION

SYMBOLIC

PURPOSE

INSPIRATION

PERSPECTIVE

TITLE

MEANING

INTERPRET

CATEGORISE

STILL LIFE

FIGURATIVE

**What is the Artwork About?**

* What is the work about? What is happening?
* What does the work represent? Moving beyond a straight description of what you see, try to think about and research what the work might stand for. Are there any symbols you recognise?
* What does the artist call it? Does this change the way you see the work?
* What is the theme of the work? For example, war, the human figure, relationships etc.
* How does the work relate to the traditional genres of History painting, the Nude, Landscape or Still life painting?