

## A Level introduction Summer holiday task

For your A Level main body of work, you will have the chance to choose your own area of study. We want you to use some time over the holidays to start forming opinions of what you like / dislike and to look at a range of artists, designers and artwork.

### TASK

**Fill a small sketchbook, or work on sheets of paper, with;**  
(Minimum of 3 double A4 pages)

- Artists research from the internet or books  
This should include studies from the artist's work and your own interpretations
- Own photographs from places you have been and of objects/ scenes that capture your eye
- A range of drawings/ studies in any media
- At least one gallery visit and a write up to show your findings

When we return in September, we will discuss this work, and use your research to guide some of the experimental work we complete in lessons.

### **HELPSHEET FOR WRITING ABOUT ARTWORK**

#### **Description**

Describe the work without using value words such as "beautiful" or "ugly":

What is the written description on the label or in the program about the work?

What is the title and who is (are) the artist(s)?

When and where the work was created?

Describe the elements of the work (i.e., line movement, light, space).

Describe the technical qualities of the work (i.e., tools, materials, instruments).

Describe the subject matter. What is it all about? Are there recognizable images?

#### **Analysis**

Describe how the work is organised as a complete composition:

How is the work constructed or planned (i.e., acts, movements, lines)?

Identify some of the similarities throughout the work (i.e., repetition of lines, two songs in each act).

Identify some of the points of emphasis in the work (i.e., specific scene, figure, movement).

If the work has subjects or characters, what are the relationships between or among them?

#### **Interpretation**

Describe how the work makes you think or feel:

Describe the expressive qualities you find in the work. What expressive language would you use to describe the qualities (i.e., tragic, ugly, funny)?

Does the work remind you of other things you have experienced (i.e., analogy or metaphor)?

How does the work relate to other ideas or events in the world and/or in your other studies?

#### **Judgment or Evaluation**

Present your opinion of the work's success or failure:

What qualities of the work make you feel it is a success or failure?

Compare it with similar works that you think are good or bad.

What criteria can you list to help others judge this work?

How original is the work? Why do you feel this work is original or not original?