WRITING ABOUT ARTISTS

Who is the artist? Where are they from? When were they making their artwork? Are they a contemporary artist? Are they associated with any particular art movement? Are they linked with other artists? Why are you looking at this artist? How do they relate to your theme? How do they relate to your work? What materials, techniques/processes do they use? How do they use them? Why does this interest you? What do you think?

Always include an image of the artist work, so that the reader can relate what you have written to visuals.

Aim to make at least one drawing of a piece of the artist's work. Remember always to include the name of the artwork, the date it was made and the materials used.

Some sentences you could try

I find this artist interesting because.....
This artist relates to my theme because they explore.....
I think this artist worked from..... observation, imagination.
Their work is somber/ energetic/ happy..... I think this is because they have.....
My work links to this artist's because I have..... used the same colours/materials/scale or I have explored a similar idea/concept/theme.

The artist's style is.....
This artist makes work in the style of ..... The artist is similar to..... They both make work that discusses colour/scale/textures.....
I like/dislike this work because.....

Critical Analysis

It is important to discuss a piece of artwork in depth. Once research has been carried out, you should select one example and write an analysis of it. It is useful to have made a drawing of the work, as it shows you have studied it in order to make your own version.

Here are some ideas for information you should include.

Content and visual description

What is the piece of art you are looking at? Is it a painting, sculpture, collage? What is the subject or theme of the piece?
Is it 2D or 3D?
Describe the piece you are looking at in more detail using the formal elements below
If it is a 2D piece: Describe the variety of lines, tones, textures, colours, shapes, marks, composition... quality of light.
If it is a 3D piece: Describe the shapes, scale, proportion, lines, movement, weight,.....

Meaning. Mood. Message

What do you think the work is about? How does it make you feel? What is the mood? Calm, sad, happy, confused?
Is the work ambiguous? Does the work mean many things to you? What are they? What does the work remind you of? Does it link with other images, objects you have seen? What is the artist trying to say through their work? Is there a message?
Process

How do you think the work is made?
What materials or media have been used? What is good about their choice of materials? How do the materials help create a certain message?
What tools and processes have the artists used to make the work?
Can you see how the artist has developed ideas in other work to create this piece?
Which 2D and 3D techniques have been used to make the work? Is the piece cut, layered or joined together in any way?
Is this work part of a series? Is it striking out in a new direction?
What could be done to improve it? What would you have done?

Connections and ideas

Explain how the artist work links to your work/theme?

When you evaluate your work, such as sketches, here are some thoughts.

I feel my work is successful because...
The techniques I used worked well, the pattern compliments the shape, the glue gives it a shiny surface, it is eye catching because of the bright colours, the layers give it an interesting texture, the materials join together well, etc.

I feel my work is unsuccessful because...
It's too large, it's too complicated, there is not enough detail, it is not very secure, the paint is too thickly applied, the image is not clear, there is no focus, etc.

What are your strengths and weaknesses?
Drawing, painting, printing, researching, listening, planning, analysis, sharing ideas, experimenting,

How could you develop the work further?
Could it be reproduced, printed, cast, made into a series, or used for another purpose etc.

Do you feel you have met the brief?
Do you feel your work is linked to the theme?
Have you shown your ideas develop through experimentation?

Did the research you carried out provide you with the appropriate source materials?
Did the artist you look at influence your work?

Guidelines for Evaluation

Write at least 500 words evaluating the project. You do not need to write the questions, just write the answers e.g. you do not need to write: what have I learnt about formal elements. You start a sentence: I learnt a lot about colour and how it affects.....

Do not write descriptions of what you did: I painted with ink over pastel and then I...
Evaluate your actions: working with ink over pastels produced exciting textures. Do not write ‘because the teacher told me to’. Enjoy this opportunity to talk about all the lovely work you have produced.

Remember to put your name on the evaluation.

What did you use for reference (working from still life, photographs, drawings)?
What have you learnt about formal elements?
What did the colour theory activities teach me?
What media experimenting did you try? What worked well and why?
Were you sure why you were doing your experimenting?
What did you learn from your experimenting?
What triggered the main ideas for your final work?
Is the final outcome to a suitable professional standard / as well as you could have done?
What are the strengths of all the work you have produced?
Are there any weaknesses in you work and if so, how could you have improved on them?
Did you use your time in class / homework time as productively as you could?
What artists that you looked at have inspired your work in this project?
Did you research enough artists when developing your own work?
What have you learnt from doing this project?
What will you take forward into the next project?
The elements of formal analysis are building blocks that combine to create a larger structure.

Line is the most basic building block of formal analysis. Line can be used to create more complex shapes or to lead your eye from one area in the composition to another.

Value is the degree of light and dark in a design. It is the contrast between black and white and all the tones in between. Value can be used with colour as well as black and white. Contrast is the extreme changes between values.

Shapes are created when lines are combined to form a square, triangle, or circle. Shapes can be organic (irregular shapes found in nature) or geometric (shapes with strong lines and angles such as circles, triangles, and squares).

Forms are three-dimensional shapes with length, width, and depth. Balls, cylinders, boxes and pyramids are forms.

Space is the area between and around objects. Increasing or decreasing the amount of space around an object affects the way we view that object.

Colour differentiates and defines lines, shapes, forms, and space. Even black and white images have a huge number of different shades of grey.

Texture is the surface quality that can be seen and felt. Textures can be rough or smooth, soft or hard. Textures are often implied. For instance, a drawing of a rock might appear to have a rough and hard surface, but in reality is as smooth as the paper on which it is drawn.

Triangulation is the composition of an image using foreground, middle ground and background to create depth.

Notice how the following principles integrate the elements of formal analysis and build on one another.

Balance is created in a work of art when textures, colours, forms, or shapes are combined harmoniously.

Contrast is the use of several elements of design to hold the viewer’s attention and to guide the viewer’s eye through the artwork.

Movement is the way a viewer’s eye is directed to move through a composition, often to areas of emphasis. Movement can be directed by lines, contrasting shapes, or colours within the artwork.

Emphasis is created in a work of art when the artist contrasts colours, textures, or shapes to direct your viewing towards a particular part of the image.

Pattern is the repetition of a shape, form, or texture across a work of art.

Proportion is created when the sizes of elements in a work of art are combined harmoniously. Rule of thirds being a great example to look for in your artists’ works.

Unity is created when the principles of analysis are present in a composition and in harmony. Some images have a complete sense of unity, while some artists deliberately avoid formal unity to create feelings of tension and anxiety.

Abstraction is to deliberately remove or not include representation from/in your image.

Once students have an understanding of formal analysis, they will be well prepared to put this theory into practice by making their own images based on the elements and principles of design. Whether in photography, sculpture, or painting, the theory of formal analysis will help students to compose their works of art as professional artists would.
布局是无比重要的，你的GCSE工作。作为艺术与设计是一个视觉主题，你的工作应该令人兴奋地看到它，并且它需要让人们想去看，阅读和学习你的工作。布局图（反面）是基本，但最有效的生产你的信息页面的方式。

记住，有两个基本信息，第一个应该包括：

a) 艺术家的出生和死亡年份（例如，b.1954 – d. 2014）。
b) 艺术家主要使用哪种材料？
c) 使用主题相关的关键词描述作品，如肖像画、抽象画、超现实主义、风景画等。
d) 你为什么喜欢这位艺术家/文化的艺术。
e) 你认为这位艺术家将如何对你的进步产生积极的影响。

第二个应该包括：

a) 你所选的标题，例如‘水面’。
b) 年份。
c) 这幅画在哪里？哪个画廊？是私人收藏吗？
d) 尺寸？请小心不要将厘米与英寸混淆！

如果你创建两个页面——你的第二页可以有更多的详细信息。但是，你不需要包括姓名作为标题。请记住，只使用艺术家的姓氏在你的工作，全名在标题将识别确切的人你是说话的，你不需要再使用名字。