Your notes

GCSE Art and Design: revision notes

Experimenting with media and techniques

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Painting

- **Watercolour**: transparent washes built up in layers, from light to dark. **Wet-on-wet** gives soft, spreading effects; wet-on-dry gives sharper edges.
- Acrylic paint dries quickly and can be used thinly or thickly. Oil paint dries slowly, so it can be blended for longer.
- Brushes, palette knives and sponges give different marks.

Printmaking

- Monoprinting makes a single, unique print from an inked surface.
- Relief printing (such as lino printing) cuts away the parts that shouldn't print; ink sits on the raised surface. Reduction **lino prints** add colours by cutting more away between layers.
- **Collagraphs** are prints from a **collage** of textured materials glued to a board.
- **Screen printing** pushes ink through a mesh screen with a stencil, as Andy Warhol did.

Other media

- **Collage** and **mixed media** combine paper, fabric, found objects and paint.
- 3D work: clay, wire, card and papier-mâché can make sculptures and reliefs.
- Digital media: photography and editing software can manipulate and combine images.
- Textiles: stitching, appliqué, batik and dyeing.

Experimenting well

- Try the same idea in several media, and annotate what worked and why (AO2).

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- Choose the media that best suits your intentions for the final piece.

Your notes

Key terms

Watercolour	Transparent paint used in washes.
Wet-on-wet	Painting onto wet paper so colours spread and blend.
Monoprint	A single, unique print.
Lino print	A relief print cut from a block of lino.
Collagraph	A print taken from a collage of textured materials.
Screen printing	Pushing ink through a mesh screen with a stencil.
Mixed media	Combining different materials in one artwork.
Collage	Artwork made by sticking materials onto a surface.

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. What type of paint is used in transparent washes?
2. What does wet-on-wet painting create?
3. What is a monoprint?
4. In lino printing, which parts print?
5. What is a collagraph?
6. Which technique did Andy Warhol use?
7. Why does oil paint suit blending?
8. What is mixed media?

Answers

1. Watercolour
2. Soft, spreading effects
3. A single, unique print
4. The raised surface left after cutting
5. A print from a collage of textured materials
6. Screen printing
7. It dries slowly
8. Combining different materials in one artwork

What to do next

Practise 10 questions on this topic

Try 3 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

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