ELEMENTS AND PRINCIPLES OF ART
The elements and principles of art are the building blocks or foundations upon which a work of art is created. You will not use all of them all the time but will you will some of them most of the time.
ELEMENTS OF ART
LINE – LINES ARE THE PATH OF A MOVING POINT. THEY DEFINE THE EDGES OF SHAPES AND FORMS.
LINE (linea)

BROKEN (quebrado)
THICK (grueso)
WAVY/CURLY (ondulado)
VERTICAL (vertical)
STRAIGHT (derecho)
VARIED (varias)

LONG (largo)
SHORT (corta)
CURVED (curva)
HORIZONTAL (horizontal)
VERTICAL (vertical)
PERPENDICULAR (perpendicular)
PARALLEL (paralelas)

ZIG-ZAG (zig-zag)
DOTTED (linea de puntos)
DIAGONAL (diagonal)
TAPERED (termina en punta cónica)
SPIRAL (espiral)

content
SHAPE- 2-D, FLAT, WHEN A LINE CONNECTS TO ITSELF
SHAPE AND FORM
(forma y forma)

GEOMETRIC

LARGE (grande) and (g)
SMALL (pequeño)

SHPERE (esfera)
PYRAMID (pirámide)
CUBE (cubo)
CIRCLE (círculo)
TRIANGLE (triángulo)
SQUARE (cuadrado)
RECTANGLE (rectángulo)
OVAL (círculo)
CYLINDER (cilindro)
TRAPEZOID (trapezoide)
DIAMOND (diamante)
STAR (estrella)
PENTAGON (pentágono)
HEART (corazón)
SEMICIRCLE (semicírculo)
HEXAGON (hexágono)
OCTAGON (octágono)
MOON (luna)

ORGANIC/FREE FORM/NATURAL

CLOUD (nube)
LEAF (hoja)
FORM - 3-D FORMS CAN BE ACTUAL OR IMPLIED, THEY HAVE HEIGHT, WIDTH, AND DEPTH
SHAPE AND FORM
(forma y forma)

GEOMETRIC (geometriaca)
- CIRCLE (círculo)
- TRIANGLE (triángulo)
- SQUARE (cuadrado)
- RECTANGLE (rectángulo)
- OVAL (ovalo)
- CYLINDER (cilindro)
- TRAPEZOID (trapezoide)
- DIAMOND (diamante)
- STAR (estrella)
- PENTAGON (pentágono)
- HEART (corazón)
- SEMI-CIRCLE (media-círculo)
- HEXAGON (hexágono)
- OCTAGON (octógono)
- MOON (luna)

ORGANIC/FREE FORM/NATURAL (orgánico / forma libre / natural)
- CLOUD (nube)
- LEAF (hoja)

LARGE (gran) and SMALL (pequeño)
ACTUAL FORM, IS A WORK THAT YOU CAN SEE FROM ALL SIDES. SCULPTURE

IMPLIED FORM, CREATED WITH SHADING AND MODELING.
COLOR – HUE OF AN OBJECT WHEN LIGHT IS REFLECTED OFF OF IT.
**Primary Colors:** Red, Yellow, Blue

**Secondary Colors:** Orange, Green, Purple

**Warm Colors:** Orange, Yellow, Red

**Cool Colors:** Blue, Green, Purple
TEXTURE – THE WAY SOMETHING FEELS OR THE WAY IT LOOKS LIKE IT FEELS.
TEXTURES ARE CREATED BY USING PATTERNS
**SPACE** - THE AREA AROUND A SUBJECT IN A WORK OF ART. SHOWN WITH SIZE, OVERLAP, AND PROPORTION
The ABCs of Art

By M.C. Gillis

SPACE

Consider
Composition

Draw Big
Fill the Whole Paper
Lines Off the Paper

Placement in Relation to Horizon
Smaller in Distance, Larger Closer Up
Darker Closer Up, Lighter Further Away

Foreground (Near Space)
Middle Ground (Middle Space)
Background (Far Space)

Positive Space
Negative Space
The Empty

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VALUE – THE LIGHTS AND DARDS OF A COLOR WITHIN A WORK OF ART.
VALUE
IS THE RANGE OF LIGHT TO DARK.

VALUE CHANGES WITH BLACK + WHITE
VALUE CHANGES WITH COLOR

SHADING WITH LINES
SHADING WITH Hatching

TINTING WITH COLOR
SHADING WITH COLOR

SHADING APPLIED TO OBJECTS:

CONTRAST = TO SHOW UNLIKEHES (SOMETHING DIFFERENT, OPPOSITE, OR DISTINHSH)

I WILL LOOK FOR VALUE AND CONTRAST, BOTH NATURAL AND MAN-MADE, IN MY ENVIRONMENT.
PRINCIPLES OF ART
Patterns – Repeat. They can be created with lines, shapes, and colors.
PATTERN

Is the repetition of the elements of art or anything else.

Patterns of Lines

Patterns of Shapes

Patterns of Color

Patterns of Movement

Patterns of Sound

PATTERN IS EVERYWHERE!
CONTRAST – DIFFERENCES IN A WORK OF ART. LIGHT & DARK, ROUGH & SMOOTH, CURVED LINE & STRAIGHT
BALANCE – IS THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE VISUAL WEIGHT OF OBJECTS IN A WORK OF ART. COLOR, SIZE, TEXTURE
Symmetrical:
I create symmetrical balance when I evenly place images on both sides of a mid-line.

Asymmetrical:
I create asymmetrical balance when I balance by size and weight and variety of images, but not evenly from the mid-line.

Radial:
I create radial balance when I repeat shapes and images evenly from the center outward.
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<tr>
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**RADIAL BALANCE**
EMPHASIS - MAIN IDEA, THE MAIN FOCUS, THE THING YOUR EYE SEES FIRST.
EMPHASIS

FOCUS - MAIN IDEA - WHAT "GRABS" MY ATTENTION?

**A beautiful flower growing in a grey, dismal setting.**

An objective design.

A house that stands out from the rest.

**The light at the end of a tunnel!**

**STOP**

LOUD NOISE DRAWS OUR ATTENTION.

PEACEFUL WINDS MELT ALL OUR TROUBLES.

**I will notice what "grabs" my attention in my day to day travels.**
UNITY – A SIMILAR ELEMENT THROUGHOUT A WORK OF ART THAT BRINGS THE PARTS TOGETHER
UNITY

UNITY brings what things bring in common, such they are alike.

UNITY IS THE THING THAT JOINS THE PARTS TOGETHER

SAMENESS... ONENESS...

Uniforms show we are joined as a team.

In art, the elements work together, fit together, as in the artwork, it looks complex (some art looks more unified than other art).

Composition, line, shape, color can unify an image.

People share related ideas: meet the same idea.

When people join hands and unite, they become stronger.
**Proportion/Scale** – The size of something compared to what is next to it.
Proportion

Proportion is the size relationship between two or more objects. It can be how the parts fit together to make a whole.

Scale
Proportions of the head
Exaggeration

A change in proportion can change the way we look at things. Accurate proportions are used more when creating realistic images. Distorted proportions are used more for cartoons and imaginary images.

I approximate and think about volume when I work with proportions. It’s math. I mentally measure size, shape, mass, weight and volume.

Halves
Thirds
Fourths
Sixths
Eighths
Tenths
RHYTHM/ MOVEMENT – VISUAL ELEMENTS IN A WORK OF ART THAT CREATE A SENSE OF ACTION OR IMPLIED MOTION
RHYTHM AND MOVEMENT
A regular repetition of the elements of art can create a sense of movement/rhythm.