

Grade Descriptors for Art

Years 7 -11

Grade 9

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students demonstrate an exceptional ability to creatively and imaginatively develop ideas through mature and thorough research into artists, designers and sources. They present exceptional research and skilful studies, using them to inform the development of their work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students are in command of their creative practice and demonstrate an exceptional ability to refine ideas through highly skilful and discriminating experimentation.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students demonstrate an exceptional ability to record ideas using a wide range of media. They use and adapt to new materials and processes with self-assurance. Written communication to record ideas is fluent, highly reflective and accurate.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce an outcome that demonstrates exceptional levels of skill and personal involvement. Students' understanding of visual language clearly exceeds above and beyond expectations.

Grade 8

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students demonstrate a fluent & skilful ability to develop ideas through mature and thorough research into artists, designers and sources. They present in-depth & mature research including a range of skilful studies, using them to inform the development of their work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students fluently & skilfully explore and experiment with a wide range of media, materials and techniques. They use a variety of strategies to fluently & skilfully refine ideas that are personal, original and imaginative.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students demonstrate a fluent and skilful ability to record ideas using a wide range of media. They demonstrate a confident understanding of formal elements. Written communication to record ideas is fluent, highly reflective and accurate.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce a skilful and creative, personal outcome when realising intentions. They demonstrate a confident and fluent understanding of visual language

Grade 7

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students demonstrate a highly developed ability to develop ideas through research into artists, designers and sources. They present purposeful & creative research including skilful studies, using them to inform the development of their own work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students skilfully explore and experiment with appropriate media, materials and techniques. They demonstrate a highly developed ability to refine work as it progresses.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students demonstrate a skilful ability to record ideas, using a wide range of media and techniques. They demonstrate a highly developed understanding of formal elements. Written communication where appropriate is fluent and accurate.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce a personal, highly developed & creative outcome, when realising intentions. They demonstrate a highly developed understanding of visual language.

Grade 6

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students develop effective ideas consistently through purposeful research into artists, designers and sources. They present their research and studies creatively making clear connections to artists work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students demonstrate an effective and consistent ability to explore and experiment with different processes, media and materials. They refine their ideas with some skill, selecting appropriate ideas and media to improve & further develop their work.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students consistently demonstrate some skill when recording ideas in a range of media and techniques. They demonstrate a clear understanding of formal elements. Written communication where appropriate, is clear and coherent.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce an imaginative and effective outcome when realising intentions. They demonstrate a confident understanding of visual language.

Grade 5

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students demonstrate a consistent ability to develop ideas through research into artists, designers & sources. They present their research and studies competently making appropriate connections to artists work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students demonstrate a consistent ability to explore and experiment with different processes, media and materials. They competently refine their ideas selecting appropriate ideas and media to improve & further develop their work.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students demonstrate a consistent ability to record ideas using a range of media and techniques. They demonstrate a competent understanding of formal elements. Written communication is reasonably clear.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce a competent and meaningful outcome when realising intentions. They demonstrate a clear understanding of visual language.

Grade 4

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students demonstrate a generally consistent ability to develop ideas inspired by research into artists, designers and sources. They present their research and ideas effectively making generally consistent connections to artists work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students demonstrate a generally consistent ability to explore and experiment with different processes, media and materials to create their own work. They refine their ideas further, selecting appropriate ideas and media to improve their work.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students demonstrate a generally consistent ability to record ideas using a range of media and techniques. They demonstrate a good understanding of formal elements. Written communication where appropriate is made.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce an effective, personal outcome when realising intentions. They demonstrate a generally consistent understanding of visual language.

Grade 3

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students develop ideas through research informed by artists, designers & sources. They present their research & ideas briefly, making some connections to artists work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students demonstrate some ability to explore and experiment with different processes, media and materials to create their own work. They refine their ideas, selecting appropriate processes, media and materials.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students show some ability to record ideas using different media. They demonstrate an understanding of formal elements. Written communication where appropriate is attempted.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce a personal and creative outcome when realising intentions. They demonstrate some understanding of visual language.

Grade 2

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students consider and select visual information to develop their ideas. They can discuss the approaches & working methods of artists, designers & sources, evaluating & reflecting on & refining their own work.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students explore and experiment with different processes, media and materials to create their own work. They attempt to refine their ideas as their work progresses.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students can record ideas using a range of media, They demonstrate some understanding of formal elements.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce a personal outcome when realising intentions. They demonstrate an adequate understanding of the work of others.

Grade 1

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students can develop and experiment with ideas and visual information to develop their ideas.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students can explore different processes, media and materials to create their own work.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students explore & develop some practical skills with a different media. Their understanding of formal elements is developing.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce a response which demonstrates a growing understanding of visual language.

Foundation +

AO 1 Develop ideas	Students can explore and experiment with ideas. Students respond and communicate ideas. Students respond to ideas. Students communicate ideas.
AO 2 Refine and explore	Students can explore ideas and investigate materials. Students can use materials and processes to communicate their ideas. Students can use materials and processes. Students purposefully choose colours or techniques.
AO 3 Record Observations	Students are exploring some practical skills and can identify formal elements. Students are responding to materials and skills but their understanding of formal elements has yet to develop. Students have a growing art vocabulary and begin to express meaning in their own work Students may intentionally represent or symbolise an object or an emotion.
AO 4 Personal response	They produce a personal response. They produce a response. They can produce work following an established classroom routine. Students have the opportunity to complete work following an established classroom routine.