

LESSON 2 OF 10

Visualizing Vocabulary!

by Debi West

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

High school “Art I” students will ...

- learn the elements and principles of art, and basic visual-art vocabulary words
- incorporate one word (usually assigned) into the actual meaning and definition of the word, visually.

MATERIALS

- 12" x 18" white drawing paper
- Graphite and colored pencils, colored and permanent black markers, crayons
- Collage materials, mixed media
- Reference materials

PROCEDURES

1. Introduce the lesson by discussing the elements and principles of art. I introduce these with mnemonic devices: “Large Scoops Vanilla Chocolate Taste So Fine” (Line, Shape, Value, Color, Texture, Space, Form) and the principles of design: “Mr. BV CURE PPh” (Movement, Rhythm, Balance, Variety, Contrast, Unity, Repetition, Emphasis, Pattern, Proportion, Harmony). I also introduce other visual-art vocabulary words, such as media, techniques and art historical elements

2. Give a word to each student and have them research the definition and meaning.

3. Students will brainstorm creative ways to visually show what their word is and they must incorporate the actual definition into their final piece.

4. Students will draw their “art” word with graphite and then outline, where appropriate, with their permanent black markers.

5. Students will then fill in with media of their choice: colored pencil, collage, paint, etc.

6. Final artworks will be hung in a class display throughout the semester, to be used as a learning wall for the art department.

7. Final artworks will be hung in a class display to introduce the school to the class.

ASSESSMENT

We do in-process critiques using my “2 Glows and a Grow” model: Each student selects a classmate’s work that speaks to him/her and attaches three notes—two with what works, and one with what the artist might want to consider or change. There is also an evaluation form that prompts students to appropriately reflect on the learning at hand and provides space for them to comment on the process and how they feel their final piece turned out. There is also space for me to comment and give them a grade based on their learning and the final work.