

Year 11 Photography Vocabulary List

(Tier 2 and Tier 3)



Annotation - written explanations or critical comments added to art or design work that record and communicate your thoughts **Conceptual** - an art form in which the underlying idea or concept and the process by which it is achieved are more important than any tangible product.

Background - the part of a composition that appears to be furthest away from the viewer.

Balance - the distribution of the visual weight of objects, colours, texture, and space.

Contrast - the difference in colour found between the light and dark parts of an image.

Exposure - the amount of light that reaches your camera's sensor. Therefore, this exposure determines how light or dark your images look.

Expressive - effectively conveying thoughts or feelings. Where the process and style of creation is emphasised rather than the final product. Expression in art might be seen in bold colour, or gestural mark making.

Foreground - the part of a composition that appears to be closest to the viewer.

Genre - the term genre has two meanings: On the one hand, it means the type or category of a painting; on the other hand, it denotes the content or topic of a particular picture.

Impasto - the process or technique of laying on paint or pigment thickly so that it stands out from a surface.

Installation art – a term used to describe large scale assemblages or constructions of mixed media, often designed for a specific site or space.

Interpretation - the attribution of meaning to a work. A point on which people often disagree is whether the artist's or author's intention is relevant to the interpretation of the work.

Message - the statement the artist is trying to make.

Mood - the emotions that are elicited in the viewer of a piece of artwork, intentionally or unintentionally.

Photomontage - another name for a composite image, which is made by combining pictures from different sources into a single image.

Realism - representing a person, location or thing in a way that is accurate and true to life.

Scale - the relative size of an element in a design when compared to another element.

Style - a distinctive type of interpretation in art or design. For example, the Cubist style can be identified by fragmented, geometric appearance and use of multiple viewpoints.

Subject Matter - what the artwork is trying to portray. If, for example, you are looking at a painting of birds, then the subject matter is the birds.