

Vocabulary

The Sensory Elements of Art

These parts make up the composition. Each of them, as well as their combined result, "speaks" to our senses.

Color or "hue" Designates the name of the color and indicates its position on the color wheel. There are three **primary colors - red, blue, and yellow**. Two primary colors mixed will make **secondary colors - orange, green, and violet (purple)**. Any two colors directly opposite to one another on the color wheel are called **complimentary colors - red and green, blue and orange, yellow and violet**

Value The lightness or darkness of a color, The addition of varying amounts of black or white will change the value of a color. Value can also be changed by adding any color that is either lighter or darker than the original color.

Shade A darker color (a hue mixed with black): navy is a shade of blue.

Tint A light or pale color (a hue mixed with white): pink is a tint of red.

Intensity The brightness or dullness of a color. **High intensity** colors are brilliant pure hues. **Low intensity** colors are dull, muted, grays.

Line The path of a line moving through space. Lines have different lengths and widths: they can be curved, straight or angular. They can be **horizontal**, parallel to the ground, often creating a calm and steady feeling. They can be **diagonal**, like an airplane on takeoff, creating a moving and dynamic look. Or they can be **vertical** - standing straight up like a flagpole- sometimes with an uplifted feeling. **Curving** lines can give a feeling of movement. Contour lines outline shapes.

Shape A two- dimensional area or plane. Shapes can be geometric - angular, circular, square, rectangular, or generally regular. Or shapes can be organic- free-flowing and unpredictable, like a cloud or a puddle. Shapes may be large or small simple or complex. regular or irregular, solid or hollow.

Space The volume contained within a work of art. Artists created a sense of three-dimensional space in two dimensions through the placement of objects in the foreground or background, through overlapping and through variations in size, value or intensity of color and clarity of detail.

Texture The quality of the surface of an object either how it feels to the touch. or how it looks as if it would feel. An artist may create a **simulated texture** by using different brush strokes, or variations in pencil or chalk marks on the paper or canvas. - smoothness of a kittens fur. roughness of a brick, or the shine of a sleek car. A sculptor works with **actual texture**. whether carving smooth marble. or creating texture in clay.