

Understanding Elements of Drawing and Composition

Chapter 1: Elements of Drawing and Composition · Topic 1

Key Concept

The elements of art include line (straight, curved), shape (2D forms), space (positive space where objects are, and negative space around them), and texture (how a surface looks or feels).

Composition is how these elements are arranged in an artwork. A balanced composition avoids cramming everything into one corner, and can guide a viewer's eye through the picture using lines or a focal point.

Quick Revision Notes

- Elements of art include line, shape, space and texture.
- Positive space is where objects are; negative space is around them.
- Composition means how elements are arranged in an artwork.
- A balanced composition avoids cramming everything into one area.

Practice Questions

- 1 Identify the positive and negative space in one of your drawings.
- 2 Create a composition using at least three different elements of art.
- 3 Rearrange a cluttered drawing into a more balanced composition.
- 4 Find an example of good composition in a painting or photograph.