

# Annotation Help

Once you have stuck an image or piece of work into your sketchbook follow these 4 simple steps to guarantee the best possible marks for annotation.

1. Say **why** you have put it in your sketchbook
2. Say **how** you think it can help you to make progress with your project
3. Say **how** your image **links** to other images in your project
4. Use technical terms as often as you can, (see glossary)

*TALK ABOUT.....* the formal elements: (lines, shapes, tones, colours, textures, patterns, in your images)

*THINK.....* Is there anything in your images / work that is fascinating or that you are pleased with and can develop further?

*EXPLAIN how* your experimentation with materials and techniques or examination of an artist has helped you to move your project forward.

*SAY* what you are going to do next and why?

**This glossary is produced to give you some technical terms that will help you to express your ideas and to understand the work of artists.**

**Remember using technical terms will get you extra marks!**

**Composition**

(A work of art and it's pieces)

**Foreground** *front*  
**Background** *back*  
**Midground** *middle*  
**Perspective** *smaller in distance*  
**Distorted** *changed/unusual*  
**Ground** *painting surface*  
**Harmonious** *feel calm*  
**Discord** *not calm*  
**Rythmn** *musical*  
**Abstract** *non figurative*  
**Landscape** *sideways / outside*  
**Portrait** *upright / faces*  
**Still life** *objects / fruit bowl*  
**Simple** *not much in it*  
**Confused** *too much in it*  
**Figurative** *human form / objects*  
**Golden section** *measured / balanced*  
**Elements** *parts of pictures*  
**Juxtaposition** *next to each other*  
**Triptych** *three pictures in a row*  
**Diptych** *two pictures in a row*  
**Religious** *Christian, Islamic etc.*

**Line**

(Lines in a work of art)

**Convoluting** *twisting*  
**Converging** *coming together*  
**Interwoven** *under & over*  
**Broken** *bits*  
**Chevron** *tractor tracks*  
**Spiral** *helter-skelter*  
**Helix** *helter-skelter*  
**Hatched** *short diagonal lines*  
**Dotted** *dots*  
**Pointillist** *dots*  
**Fast** *thinner / striking*  
**Slow** *thicker / rough*  
**Heavy** *dark / slow*  
**Light** *like a whisper*  
**Curved** *bending*  
**Crossing** *multi-directional*  
**Diagonal** *corner to corner*  
**Vertical** *straight up*  
**Horizontal** *side to side*  
**Stepped** *like steps*  
**Twisting** *like a coil*  
**Looping** *twisting in loops*

**Texture**

(Way things feel or appear to feel)

**Metallic** *like metal*  
**Enamel** *like teeth*  
**Grated** *like grated cheese*  
**Impasto** *thick paint*  
**Aggregate** *crumble*  
**Abrasive** *rough*  
**Gloss** *shiny*  
**Matt** *not shiny*  
**Aqualine** *watery*  
**Pearl** *smooth like pearls*  
**Rough** *not smooth*  
**Smooth** *like glass*  
**Splintered** *like snapped wood*  
**Fluid** *moving / wet / cool*  
**Peeling** *paint / skin coming off*  
**Orange peel** *like orange peel*  
**Furry** *like a fur coat*  
**Scaly** *like skin of a fish*  
**Warm** *body temperature*  
**Cold** *like ice*  
**Woody** *wood like*  
**Powdered** *covered in powdered*

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<b>Islamic</b>	<i>related to Islam</i>
<b>Christian</b>	<i>related to Christianity</i>
<b>Buddhist</b>	<i>related to Buddhism</i>
<b>Exotic</b>	<i>cultural - foreign</i>
<b>European</b>	<i>from Europe</i>
<b>Western</b>	<i>USA &amp; Europe</i>
<b>Modern</b>	<i>new / 20<sup>th</sup> century art</i>
<b>Conventional</b>	<i>un-original</i>
<b>Symbolic</b>	<i>with additional meaning</i>
<b>Postmodern</b>	<i>using styles together</i>
<b>Minimal</b>	<i>less is more</i>
<b>Expressionist</b>	<i>emotional / strong colour &amp; marks</i>
<b>Eastern</b>	<i>of the east / China etc.</i>
<b>Mosaic</b>	<i>image made with small tiles of colour</i>
<b>Montage</b>	<i>images together to make an image</i>
<b>Collage</b>	<i>image made using pieces of colour</i>
<b>Canvas</b>	<i>linen fabric used as a painting surface</i>
<b>Stretcher</b>	<i>wooden frame for stretching canvas</i>
<b>Gesso</b>	<i>white primer paint for canvas</i>
<b>Iconic</b>	<i>religious / famous</i>
<b>Hog</b>	<i>a painting brush made from hog hair</i>
<b>Sable</b>	<i>watercolour brush made from Sables</i>

<b>Rising</b>	<i>lines moving up</i>
<b>Falling</b>	<i>lines moving down</i>
<b>Action</b>	<i>energetic</i>
<b>Animated</b>	<i>moving</i>
<b>Mobile</b>	<i>moving</i>
<b>Bold</b>	<i>black- obvious</i>
<b>Fine</b>	<i>light &amp; thin</i>
<b>Scratched</b>	<i>scratches</i>
<b>Etched</b>	<i>scratched by acid</i>
<b>Aquiline</b>	<i>fluid / linear</i>
<b>Rebate</b>	<i>trough/ trench</i>

<b>Lumpy</b>	<i>lots of lumps</i>
<b>Hammered</b>	<i>dimples (like golf ball)</i>
<b>Pocked</b>	<i>dotted</i>
<b>Scratched</b>	<i>scratches</i>
<b>Varnished</b>	<i>shiny</i>
<b>Polished</b>	<i>shiny</i>
<b>Hairy</b>	<i>like hair</i>
<b>Corroded</b>	<i>rusty / damaged</i>
<b>Plastic</b>	<i>like paint or plastic</i>
<b>Brush</b>	<i>like surface of bristles</i>
<b>Grated</b>	<i>like cheese grater</i>

### Markmaking

(The marks used by the artist and you)

<b>Stippling</b>	<i>stab with brush</i>
<b>Hatching</b>	<i>slashes</i>
<b>Crosshatching</b>	<i>crossed slashes</i>
<b>Wet on wet</b>	<i>soft edges/ wet paint on wet paint</i>
<b>Dry on dry</b>	<i>hard edges</i>
<b>Pointillist</b>	<i>dots</i>
<b>Impressionist</b>	<i>dabs</i>
<b>Expressionist</b>	<i>dramatic/free</i>
<b>Painterly</b>	<i>energetically painted</i>
<b>Distressed</b>	<i>damaged</i>
<b>Dabs</b>	<i>painted mark</i>
<b>Daubs</b>	<i>painted mark</i>
<b>Angular</b>	<i>edgy / angles</i>
<b>Scratching</b>	<i>scratches</i>
<b>Etched</b>	<i>scratches with acid</i>
<b>Printed</b>	<i>made by printing</i>
<b>Dusty</b>	<i>powder / dust</i>
<b>Slow</b>	<i>marks made slowly</i>
<b>Fast</b>	<i>marks made quickly</i>
<b>Energetic</b>	<i>lots of movement</i>
<b>Aggressive</b>	<i>sharp energetic dark</i>
<b>Passive</b>	<i>quiet, flat</i>
<b>Curved</b>	<i>curves</i>
<b>Diagonal</b>	<i>slashes / corner to corner</i>
<b>Textured</b>	<i>rough</i>

### Tone

(The shading used by an artist or you)

<b>Chiaroscuro</b>	<i>shading</i>
<b>Opaque</b>	<i>no light passes through</i>
<b>Translucent</b>	<i>light passes through</i>
<b>Transparent</b>	<i>see through</i>
<b>Highlight</b>	<i>light tones</i>
<b>Natural light</b>	<i>sun light</i>
<b>Artificial light</b>	<i>lamp light</i>
<b>Mid tone</b>	<i>between light &amp; dark</i>
<b>Contrast</b>	<i>dark &amp; light together</i>
<b>Graduated tone</b>	<i>gradually lighter/darker</i>
<b>Blended tone</b>	<i>merged shades</i>
<b>Tonal scale</b>	<i>a range of tones</i>
<b>Tonal range</b>	<i>a range of tones</i>
<b>Deep tone</b>	<i>dark</i>
<b>Shaded</b>	<i>tonal</i>

### Form

(3d shape)

<b>Rotund</b>	<i>fat/round</i>
<b>Elegant</b>	<i>swan like</i>
<b>Classic</b>	<i>Greek/can't improve</i>
<b>loose</b>	<i>free/flowing</i>
<b>Animated</b>	<i>moving</i>
<b>Mobile</b>	<i>moving</i>
<b>Cuboid</b>	<i>like a cube</i>
<b>Planar</b>	<i>flat</i>
<b>Convuluted</b>	<i>twisted</i>
<b>Futurist</b>	<i>moving / mechanical</i>
<b>Sculptural</b>	<i>3d art</i>
<b>Trapezoid</b>	<i>four sided, (2equal)</i>
<b>Angular</b>	<i>edgy / angles</i>
<b>Smooth</b>	<i>smooth</i>
<b>Textured</b>	<i>rough</i>
<b>Fast</b>	<i>fast lines</i>
<b>Slow</b>	<i>slow lines</i>
<b>Light</b>	<i>thin, weightless</i>
<b>Heavy</b>	<i>thick, weighty</i>
<b>Anthropomorphic</b>	<i>human shape</i>
<b>Geometric</b>	<i>shapes</i>
<b>Fluid</b>	<i>flowing lines</i>

**Printmaking**  
(making a print)

<b>Etching</b>	<i>print made using copper &amp; acid</i>
<b>Mono print</b>	<i>print made by painting on to a block</i>
<b>Lino print</b>	<i>print made by cutting into linoleum</i>
<b>Wood cut</b>	<i>print made by cutting into wood</i>
<b>Press print</b>	<i>print made using polystyrene</i>
<b>Cutter</b>	<i>tool for cutting image into block</i>
<b>Stylus</b>	<i>sharp cutting tool</i>
<b>Block</b>	<i>the object from which a print is made</i>
<b>register</b>	<i>alignment of a print</i>
<b>Off register</b>	<i>a print out of alignment</i>
<b>Photograph</b>	<i>a print made from light</i>
<b>Lithograph</b>	<i>a print made using a stone block</i>

**Colour**  
(ways of describing colours)

<b>Tint</b>	<i>colour made by adding white</i>
<b>Tone</b>	<i>shade of colour</i>
<b>Subdued</b>	<i>reduced in power</i>
<b>Bold</b>	<i>obvious, powerful</i>
<b>Brilliant</b>	<i>bright</i>
<b>Cool</b>	<i>eg. Cool yellow = lemon</i>
<b>Warm</b>	<i>eg. Warm yellow = Cadmium yellow</i>
<b>Complimentary</b>	<i>opposite colour on colour wheel</i>
<b>Primary</b>	<i>red, blue &amp; yellow</i>
<b>Secondary</b>	<i>orange, purple &amp; green</i>
<b>Tertiary</b>	<i>any colour made from primary &amp; secondary</i>
<b>Vibrant</b>	<i>very bright / powerful</i>
<b>Luminous</b>	<i>like neon signs</i>
<b>Viridian</b>	<i>like a dark green leaf, eg. Vine leaf</i>
<b>Vermillion</b>	<i>pillar box red</i>
<b>Umber</b>	<i>a dark earthy brown</i>
<b>Sienna</b>	<i>a light earthy brown</i>
<b>Ochre</b>	<i>mustard yellow</i>
<b>Crimson</b>	<i>a cool, passionate red</i>
<b>Muted</b>	<i>see <b>subdued</b></i>