



Amarillo College

An equal opportunity community college

ARTS 1311 Design I Knowledge Test Study List: The Elements of Design

1. Define design as a verb and noun.
2. Explain the concept of composition.
3. What is calligraphy?
4. How does the concept of closure work?
5. Define line as a design element.
6. What is hatching and cross hatching?
7. Discuss the illusion of trompe l'oeil.
8. What are the relations of figure and ground and positive and negative shapes?
9. Explain the various shapes: rectilinear shapes, geometric shapes, curvilinear shapes, organic shapes, high and low definition shapes, pure shapes, realistic shapes, abstract shapes and non-objective shapes.
10. Discuss collage as an artistic formation of shapes.
11. What are the three kinds of texture?
12. Explain the term "value" applied to shades and tints in design.
13. What are the two kinds of shadows?
14. What is the name of the brightest light used in lighting a subject or scene?
15. What kind of light is uniform and fills up a room or even out-of-doors as a background light?
16. How is the "grisaille" technique used in painting?
17. What is the figure/ground reversal effect?
18. What is the definition given in the textbook for the term "concept"?
19. Discuss David Lauer's definition of the term "lost and found contours".
20. How can a line look and seem "energetic"?
21. When does cross-hatching on a subject in a drawing give the impression of being far-away or close-up?
22. What is a "value scale"?
23. What is a "gestural" drawing?
24. Why study design?
25. Who determines what good design is?
26. How does one develop "good taste" for design?
27. Can design be applied to three-dimensional objects?
28. Is there a difference between decorative and functional design?
29. Define "shape".
30. Can a civilization do without design?