

A-Level Art and Photography Component 1- Personal Investigation (AQA)

In order to successfully complete this component students have to fulfil all 4 assessment objectives. The breakdown and explanation of them can be found on this website:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level>

The practical work created in students' sketchbooks must be supported by the written material and we would suggest that students will start writing their essays over the Summer.

The written essay must have:

- a. **Clear connection with the practical work** (although it is not compulsory to include annotation in the sketchbooks, it is a good practice to annotate the work and analyse artists' work as this is often a good start for the essay.)
- b. **1000-3000 words** continuous prose which is strongly advised to be typed using word processing software (written notes and annotations do not form the word count)
- c. Legibility and clear use of English are important and specialist vocabulary appropriate to the subject matter must be included.
- d. **Bibliography (Webography) must** be included at the end of the document.
Students are expected to **visit galleries/museums** and other **events** in order to support their recording of observations and development of ideas. This can be done via virtual tours online as well. Also, to **take own photographs, sketch, complete study drawings/paintings** or even produce a journal where they explore their topics and develop their skills further. **Everything must be purposefully planned and closely connected.**

Every week they should produce an amount of **at least one double page** in their sketchbook and it should be sequential which means there should be a logical cohesion between the pages. The work can be created separately (outside the sketchbook) and selected pieces presented later to secure the sequenced cohesion as the work progresses. **Photography students** are producing PowerPoint presentations, but equally they are asked to use the sketchbooks to explore their ideas, experiment with photographs, physically manipulate them etc. There is also an opportunity to create a digital photo sketchbook, which can be completed online and printed later. For that purpose, students can use various online software such as <https://bookcreator.com/>, <http://morpholioapps.com/morpholio/> (only works on apple devices) or other photo book online software.

All students must analyse and connect their work with the work of others. It is not stated how many artists/cultures they need to analyse, but the connection must be clear and in-depth, which means closely studied and explored in variety of media. Then using own sources (photographs, life drawn studies, sketches) students implement the techniques learned and create their own responses which should lead to some enlarged final outcomes completed in any media. It is necessary to have a collection of final outcomes, but they must be supported by preparatory work.

Useful websites:

<https://www.studentartguide.com/>

<https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/writing-the-a2-art-personal-study>

<https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/art-sketchbook-ideas>

<https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/creative-photography-ideas>

https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/75809/12-world-class-museums-you-can-visit-online?fbclid=IwAR0VJd9M9CfjZiLjuKWmOJxS3LId6f4dzlQAZEp18fl_kbm55n0vQnhA

https://theartyteacher.com/artists-themes/?fbclid=IwAR39b7faMRnfRAy80hHZJC2TjaB4ckMPw0_gp4H6UpRZX60dnU2x-SpHf_c
<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/art-and-design/AQA-AS-A-ART-TG-GUIDE.PDF>

Video presentations of A* students' work:

Art and design:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEql6Ycticc>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQvp_kiZ5co

Photography:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fdv4k08c60M>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15X72ilQw5o>

Useful books:

AQA Art & Design AS/A2: Student Handbook

Ways of Seeing, Author: John Berger, Publisher: Penguin Classics

Key Moments in Art, Author: Lee Cheshire, Publisher: Thames & Hudson

Looking at Pictures, Author: Susan Woodford, Publisher: Thames and Hudson