

2026-2027 **AP Art Summer Homework**

Welcome to AP 2D Art and Design / AP Drawing

AP Art is a self-directed process that requires independent thinking, planning, experimentation, and sustained effort. In AP Art, you will develop original artwork based on an idea that is personal, meaningful, and worth investigating over time. This course expects students to demonstrate maturity, responsibility, strong planning skills, professionalism, and the ability to work independently.

For this reason, your summer homework is designed to help you begin thinking like an artist and prepare for your AP Art sustained investigation.

Summer Homework Requirements

You will complete **five assignments** before the start of the school year:

1. **Create a mental map** of potential ideas for your AP Art sustained investigation.
2. **Answer the questions** on the Brainstorming Topic Questions and Resources Worksheet.
3. **Create two artworks (2)** that visually show evidence of your idea.
4. **Buy a sketchbook of your choice.** You want one that you can take everywhere to write down your thoughts and sketch your ideas, so make sure it fits comfortably in your handbag.

These assignments are due **before the school year begins** and will be turned in on the **second day of class** after you join Google Classroom. Do not wait until the first day of school to complete them. There will not be enough class time to finish them, and completing them at the last minute will not reflect the level of professionalism expected in AP Art.

Step 1: Create a Mental Map

Start by making a list of ideas you might want to explore in AP Art. Create a mental map with **yourself in the center** and branch out into topics that are personal, interesting, meaningful, or connected to things you care deeply about.

Your ideas can come from:

- Personal experiences.
- Family or cultural connections.
- Topics you are fascinated by.

- Places, memories, or events in your life.
- Issues, feelings, or stories that matter to you.

As you brainstorm, think about:

- Main ideas.
- Sub-ideas.
- Objects.
- Textures.
- Colors.
- Places.
- Feelings.
- Materials.

You may also use the brainstorming resource here:

[How to Brainstorm](#)

Watch this video to better understand the process:

[Brainstorming for Artists](#)

Step 2: Complete the Worksheet

Choose the strongest idea from your mental map, or the idea you feel most interested in developing for your AP Art sustained investigation. Then answer the following questions in **full sentences** on the Brainstorming Topic Questions and Resources Worksheet.

Brainstorming Topic Questions and Resources Worksheet

1. What is the idea you want to investigate in AP Art through your artwork?
2. What about this idea interests you?
3. What mediums and materials do you think you will use to create your artwork?
4. Why do you want to use these mediums and materials?
5. List 10 resources where you can find information about this idea.
6. Develop four guiding questions that will help you expand your creative process.

Example:

My idea is Time and Memory.

- Guiding Question #1: How are time and memory related?
- Guiding Question #2: How can we capture memories over time?
- Guiding Question #3: How can I make visible the relationship between time and memory?

- Guiding Question #4: What materials and processes can I use to address time and memory in my work, and why?

Worksheet link:

[Brainstorming Topic Questions and Resources Worksheet](#)

Step 3: Create Two Artworks (2)

Create **two artworks** that show visual evidence of your chosen idea.

You may use any medium you want, including:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Collage
- Mixed media
- Photography
- Digital art
- Printmaking

Your artwork should:

- Be original.
- Connect clearly to your idea.
- Show thoughtful planning.
- Demonstrate craftsmanship and effort.
- Reflect your ability to make choices as an independent artist.

AP Art Expectations

In AP Art, you are expected to:

- Think like an artist and develop your own ideas.
 - Avoid copying other artists' work.
 - Create artwork that is 100% original.
 - Use no artificial intelligence in the development of your artwork.
 - Work outside of class time to make progress.
 - Show outstanding craftsmanship.
 - Be flexible in your use of materials.
 - Solve problems independently and resourcefully.
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How Your Work Will Be Assessed

Your summer homework will be evaluated using the AP Studio Art Artwork Rubric. The rubric considers the following areas:

- **Composition:** How well the artwork uses the elements and principles of art, as well as craftsmanship and overall visual organization.
- **Synthesis of Ideas, Materials, and Processes:** How strongly the artwork connects your idea to your chosen materials and methods.
- **Creative Process:** How much experimentation, revision, and flexibility you show while developing your work.
- **Effort and Participation:** How much time, planning, and dedication you demonstrate in completing the assignment on time.

Step 4. Buy a sketchbook of your choice. You want one that you can take everywhere to write down your thoughts and sketch your ideas, so make sure it fits comfortably in your handbag.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact me at:

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