

How to Annotate, or Write About Your Own Work:

You should annotate every drawing / design idea to explain your thoughts and working methods, and show the development of your artwork.

Write in full sentences and in as much detail as possible. Use the creative vocabulary list to assist you and check spelling, punctuation and grammar.

When writing about your work, you should ask yourself:

1. What is the image of? Is it an observational drawing, or a drawing taken from primary resources (your own photographs), is it a drawing from secondary resources, (photos or resources produced by others) or is it a design idea, etc?
2. Which artist(s) did you take ideas or inspiration from and in which way?
3. Describe how you produced your work, stage by stage. What did you have to think about / include, and which materials / techniques have you used and why?
4. Write about the formal elements within your work including your use of: colour, texture, pattern, tone, line, shape/form, composition. Not all of these may be relevant, but you should comment on as many as possible.
5. What are the most successful aspects of your work and why? List at least 3 points.
6. Did you overcome any difficulties in order to produce this piece? If so how?
7. What are the least successful aspects of your work, what would you change and why? How do you feel that you could further improve?
8. Why did you produce this piece and how do you feel overall about your work?
9. In completing this, what have you learnt in terms of development of ideas, new skills, or new techniques, and how could you go on to develop these further?
10. Do you have a better understanding of the artist's work, if so how, and what are the similarities and differences between your own work and theirs?

How to Annotate, or Write About Your Work – A List of Sentence Starters:

The following suggestions are numbered according to the question that they relate to:

1. This is an observational drawing of
I have produced this drawing of afrom life.
This is a study of afrom a photograph that I have taken.
In this piece I have....
2. I was inspired by (artist's name)'s drawing of a ...because.....
I was inspired by....when creating this piece of work.
The artist has influenced my design because...
3. I have used the following materials.....
I produced this study using.....
This piece contains the following characteristics.....
Whilst producing this drawing, I needed to think about...
4. I am pleased with my use of colour because....
I have paid attention to texture by....
I have achieved a range of tonal qualities through....
My drawing has three dimensional qualities because....
I have created a balanced / harmonious/ asymmetric composition by....
5. The aspects of my work that I feel are the most successful are...
Within my drawing, I am particularly pleased with....
6. When completing this drawing, I needed to overcome...
Whilst producing this study I did struggle with.... however....
7. The aspects of my drawing that I could improve on include.....
I could further this piece improve by.....
If I were to.....this would be an improvement.
To improve this piece I could have
8. I created this piece in order to....
Overall I am pleased with this drawing because....
9. In creating this piece I have learnt.....this could help me in the future because.....
Through working in this way I have learnt toI will further develop this by...
10. Here I have shown.....In the style of.....
I have gained a greater insight to (artist's name)'s work by.....
The similarities (or differences) between my own work and that by (artist's name)...are

