



Topic: Cubism

Year: 8

NC Strand: media exploration, analyse, evaluate, historical, techniques and observations.

What should I already know?

Students should have a basic knowledge of the 5 Tones of shading, how to apply this to tonal bars and bending bars and still life work. How you use spatial recession and positioning of the objects to create a drawing. Year 8's have learnt how to evaluate and discuss Artists work, why they did it and their styles.

What will I know by the end of the unit?

- About Cubism, how cubism is created and what key points make a cubist image.
- Cubist artists, Pablo Picasso, Paul Cezanne and Georges Braque.
- How to create a cubist image using drawing techniques and photography skills.
- How to compose a cubist image using different angles and viewpoints.
- The challenges of creating a cubist image.

Vocabulary

Cubism	an early 20th-century style and movement in art, especially painting, in which perspective with a single viewpoint was abandoned and use was made of simple geometric shapes, interlocking planes, and, later, collage.
Viewpoints	the position of the subject to the viewer.
Angles	the space between two intersecting lines or surfaces at or close to the point where they meet.
Photography	the art or practice of taking and processing photographs.
Tones	areas that create lights and darks
Composition	how the objects are laid out and put together on the page (layout)
Spatial recession	creating depth in a drawing, foreground, middle ground and background
Analytical Cubism	the subject is broken down into flattened planes and sharp angles.
Synthetic Cubism	the subject is reduced to simple shapes that are built upon each other - literally. Synthetic Cubism wasn't limited to painting but also included collage.

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(Left) Examples of Analytical & Synthetic Cubism. (Right) Our interpretation and recreation of Cubism through Photography.



Key Information

- Cubism was a revolutionary new approach to representing reality invented in around 1907–08 by artists Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque. They brought different views of subjects (usually objects or figures) together in the same picture, resulting in paintings that appear fragmented and abstracted
- Cubism was partly influenced by the late work of artist Paul Cezanne in which he can be seen to be painting things from slightly different points of view. Picasso was also inspired by African tribal masks which are highly stylised, or non-naturalistic, but nevertheless present a vivid human image. 'A head', said Picasso, 'is a matter of eyes, nose, mouth, which can be distributed in any way you like'.
- By breaking objects and figures down into distinct areas – the artists aimed to show different viewpoints at the same time and within the same space and so suggest their three dimensional form. In doing so they also emphasized the two-dimensional flatness of the canvas instead of creating the illusion of depth.
- Analytical cubism = more severe and are made up of an interweaving of planes and lines in muted tones of blacks, greys and ochres.
- Synthetic cubism is the later phase of cubism, simpler shapes and brighter colours. Included collaged real elements such as newspapers and real objects

Investigate/Homework tasks

Websites:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/c/cubism>

Key skills/Timeline/Topic Questions

Note: KS3 have double lessons; 1 lesson = 2 hours.

Lesson 1: What is Cubism? Mindmap of facts about cubism and what it is. Drawing activities involving drawing different viewpoints as a class and individually.

Lesson 2: Section copy and enlarging of Pablo Picasso 'Table in Cafe'. Photography activity, setting up still life and pair work photographing viewpoints and angles.

Lesson 3: Composing a cubist image, using sheet music and images to create a collage of images. Evaluate, design and review.