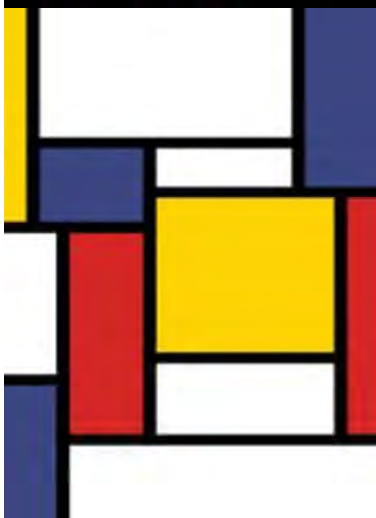


Art Class 2

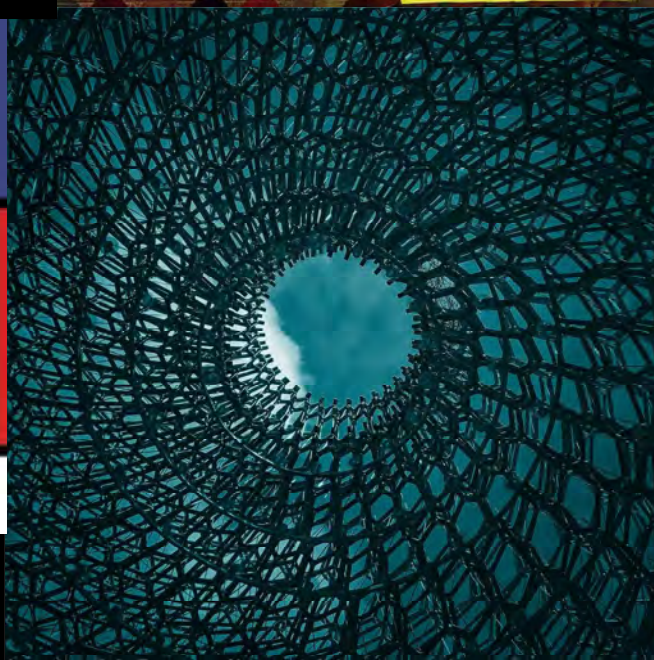
# Composition

THE ARTIST  
**SEES**  
WHAT OTHERS  
**ONLY**  
CATCH A  
GLIMPSE OF

LEONARDO  
DA VINCI



Mrs J Marker

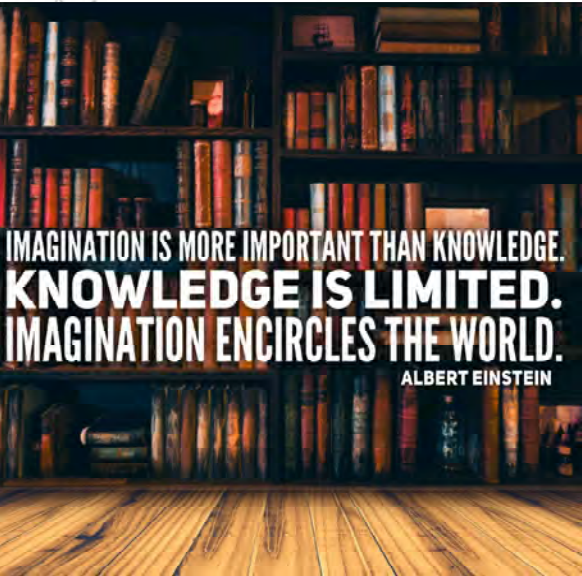




# Creativity



<h2>IMAGINATION WORKOUT</h2> <p>INSTRUCTIONS: Use your imagination to create a picture out of the shapes and abstract lines in each of the squares.</p>			



IMAGINATION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN KNOWLEDGE.  
**KNOWLEDGE IS LIMITED.**  
IMAGINATION ENCIRCLES THE WORLD.  
ALBERT EINSTEIN



Worry is a waste of  
imagination.

Walt Disney

disney

# Composition

**Composition is the term used for the arrangements of the elements or objects in an artwork.**

**A successful composition draws in the viewer and pulls their eye across the whole painting so that everything is taken in and finally settles on the main subject of the painting.**

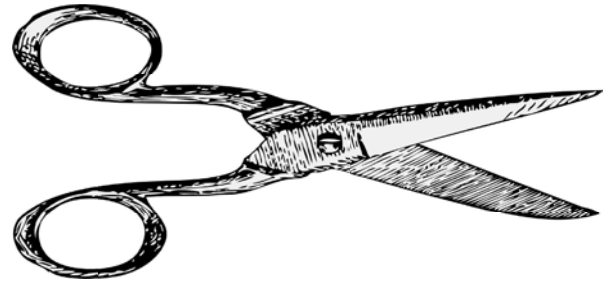
**Try using one of the following strategies to ensure an effective composition...**





# *Inspiration*

**Try giving your collage  
a geometric  
structure...**



**Or think about how little  
parts of colour or pattern  
can create a whole  
picture- like a face**

**Jelle Martin**

A composition is an  
arrangement, built  
out of parts, that aims  
at seamless

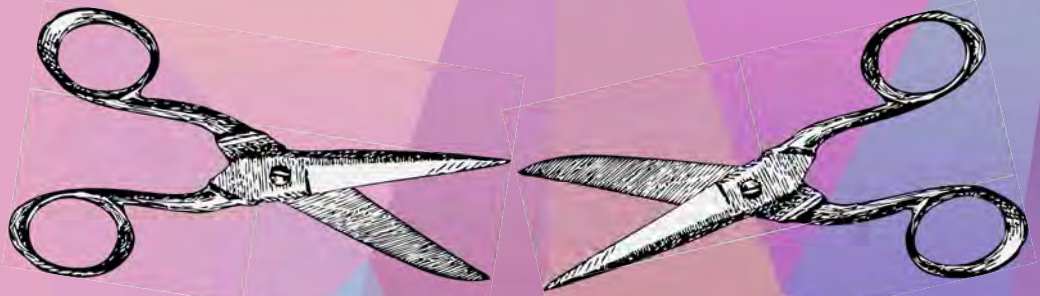
Eric Maisel



**Ian Wright**



# Challenge



1. Create a collage that visually explores a theme or feeling, or focus on COMPOSITION.
2. Use a variety of sources (magazines, newspapers, printed out images, old ticket stubs, weird bits from your pockets, your own photographs, doodles, drawings, receipts, stamps, old books etc.)
3. Fill the page by tearing/cutting images & layering in an interesting way before gluing down.
4. Be innovative, take risks and be sure to share your work with someone!





## Here are a few strategies you can try using when creating a collage.

Tips for creating good composition:

### 1. Overlap

Place objects slightly over one another. This will get the eye to move from one element to another. Objects should not be touching each other by edges ("no kissing allowed!"). Avoid isolation. Build a relationship between objects.

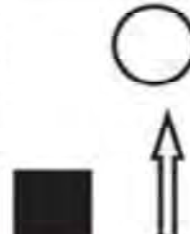
Good overlapping



Avoid kissing



Avoid isolation



### 2. Crop

Consider having objects go off the edge of the page. This gets the viewer in and out of the picture. Avoid floating objects within the edges of the page.

Have object go off the page



Avoid floating objects



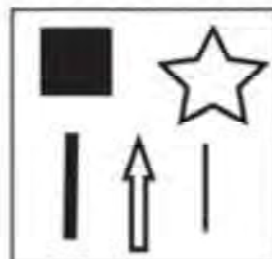
### 3. Rotate:

Consider placing objects at an angle. Things that are tilted create a more dynamic composition. Artwork with objects that are perfectly lined up with the edge can be boring.

Tilt objects



Avoid all objects upright



### 4. Focal Point

Create an area of importance. Give the viewer something to focus on. One way to achieve this is through size variation. Try not to have all elements the same size. Another way to create focus is through color dominance.

Use size & color variation



Avoid all objects the same size



### 5. Off-Centering

Avoid placing objects directly in the center of the page. Think about placing objects slightly to one side. This will create a more interesting composition. Try to keep elements balanced as you do this. For example, one large object could be balanced by 3 smaller ones. (Note: this does not mean that a symmetrical design cannot be successful.)

Off-center objects for interest



Centered can be boring



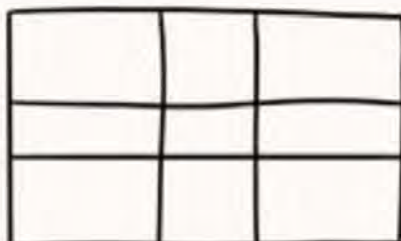




## A BEGINNERS GUIDE TO COMPOSITION



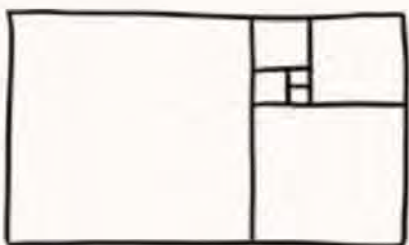
Rule of Thirds



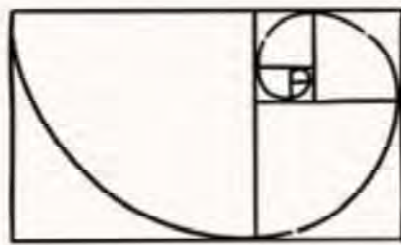
Golden Section



Golden Triangles



Spiral Section



Golden Spiral



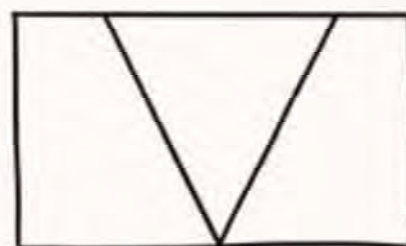
Harmonious Triangles



Cross



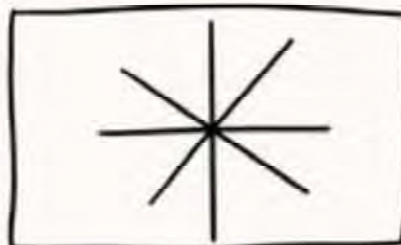
Focal Mass



V-Arrangement



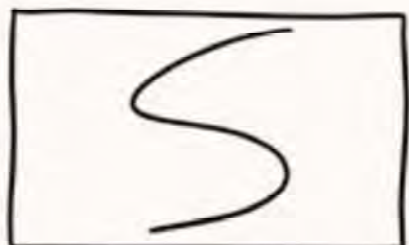
Diagonal



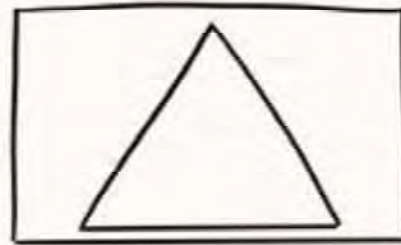
Radial



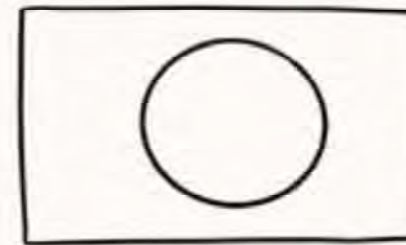
L-Arrangement



Compound Curve



Pyramid



Circular



# Knowledge



Composition: All the action is arranged in two pyramidal shapes. The diagonal lines lead the eye to two key peaks: the wave that may or may not engulf the survivors on the raft, and the flag in the top right corner that is raised in a last gesture of hope to the ship that may or may not rescue them.

**Théodore Géricault's massive scene of shipwrecked men helpless in the grips of the ocean, is one of the most influential works of French Romanticism. 'The Raft of the Medusa' is based on a French naval warship that fought in the Napoleonic Wars of the early 19th Century. The ship survived these maritime battles only to crash on a sandbank during an attempt to colonize Senegal. A shortage of lifeboats sent sailors scrambling to build a raft. Only 10 of approximately 150 people who boarded the raft survived. Artist Géricault drew his inspiration from the accounts of two survivors.**





# Practise

To better understand the mastery of Gericault's composition, try sketching your own version of *The Raft of Medusa*. Don't worry about making mistakes, this exercise is about carefully looking, and simplifying the painting into shapes and loose, flowing lines. Use a marker pen, crayon or a stick of charcoal, cane or graphite and spend up to 10 minutes on this quick study.





## The Rule of Odds

One of the first things to decide in a composition is how many items there will be in it.

The simplest ways to make a composition more dynamic is to have an odd number in the composition, say three, five, or seven, rather than an even number, say two, four, or six.

Having an odd number of things in a composition means your eye and brain can't pair them up or group them easily. There's somehow always one thing left over, which keeps your eyes moving across the composition.



## Eye Movement & Geometric Configurations

Try using geometry to control the way a viewer's moves through your composition.

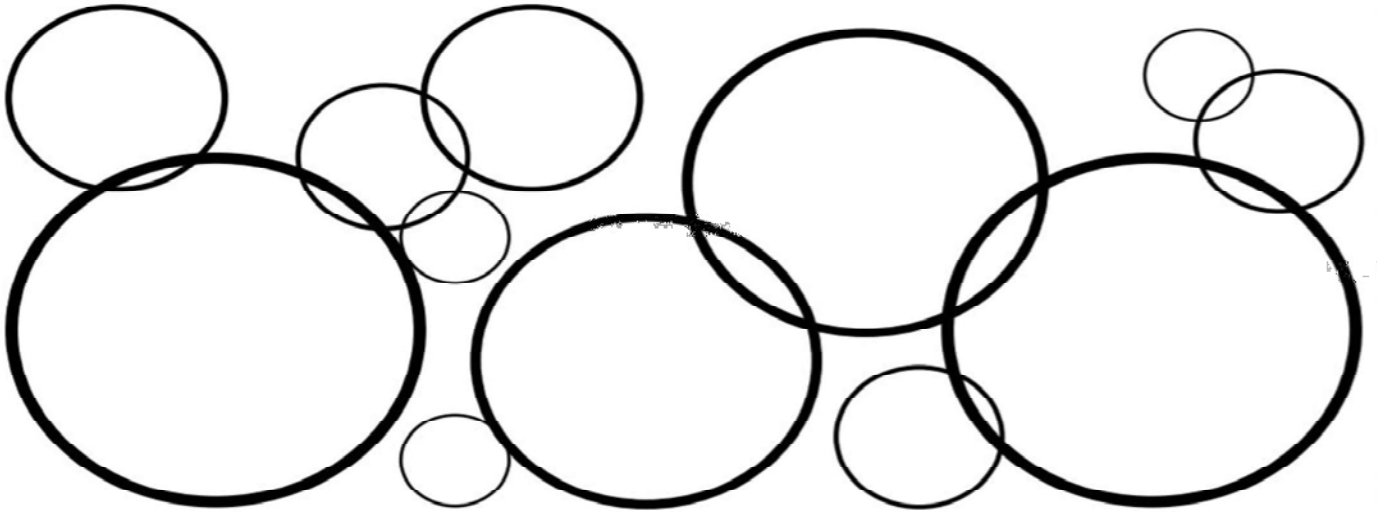




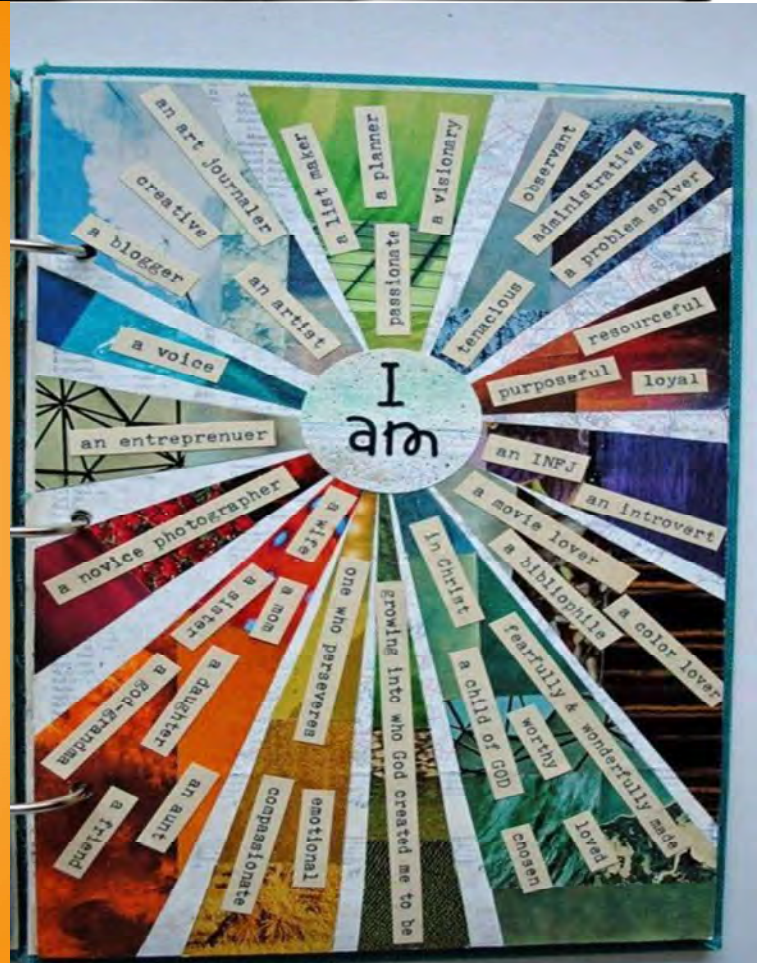
# Creativity

**I think you are pretty amazing! So do lots of other people.  
Fill in the circles below to remind yourself of how great you are!**

I AM GOOD AT LOT OF THINGS!  
I CAN DRAW & WRITE POSITIVE THINGS ABOUT MYSELF.



- 1. Starting with what you've written in the circles above- Create a collage that explores who you are.**
- 2. Use a variety of sources (magazines, newspapers, printed out images, old ticket stubs, weird bits from your pockets, your own photographs, doodles, drawings, receipts, stamps, old books etc.)**
- 3. Choose a Composition Rule (pages 1-2) to follow if you wish.**



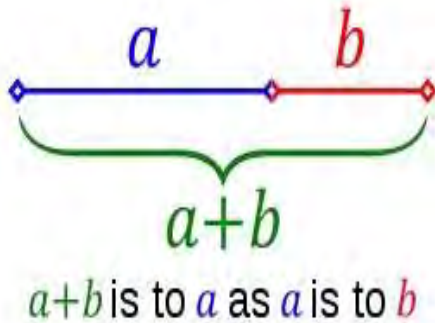


# Knowledge

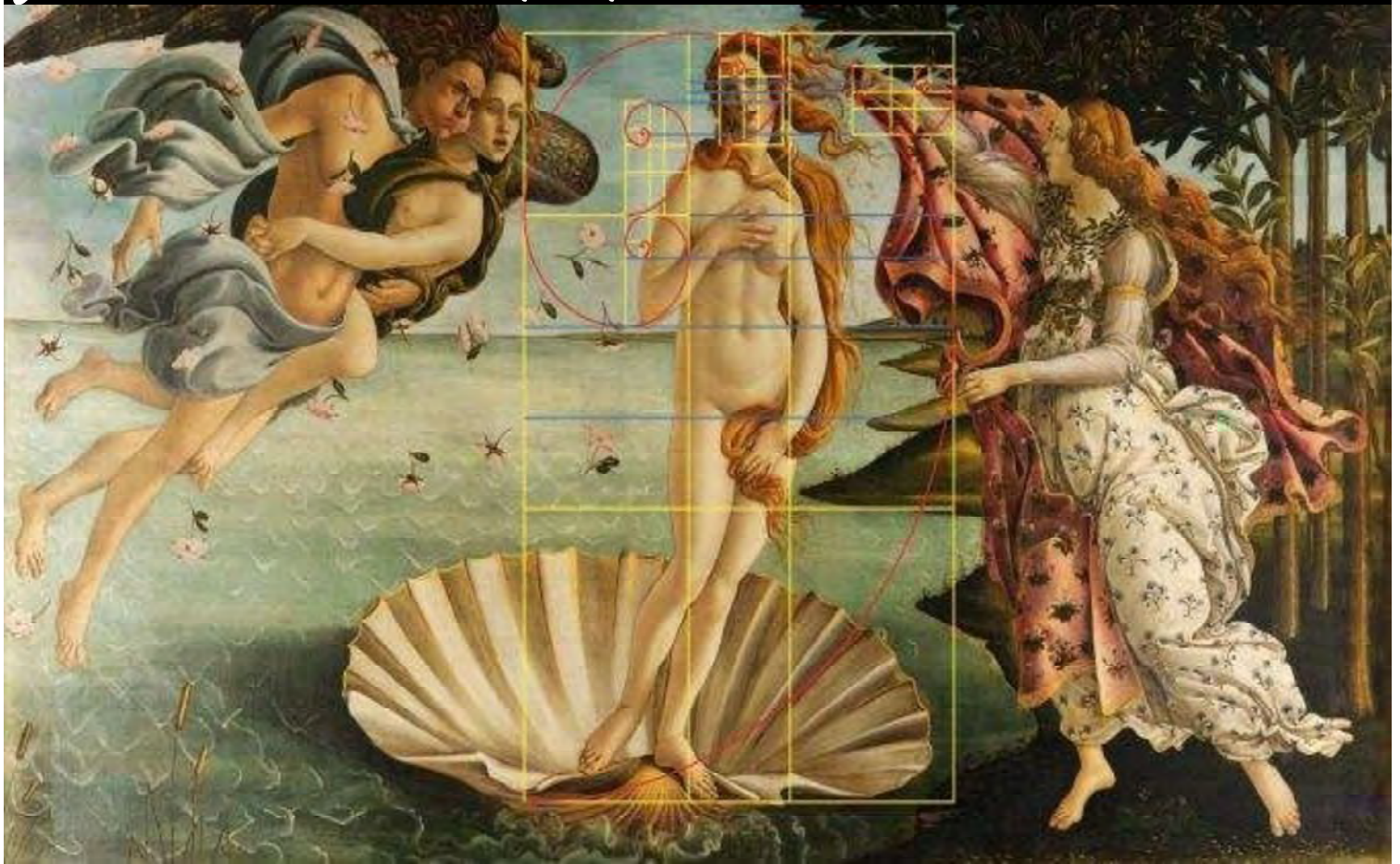
“The Birth of Venus” was painted by Sandro Botticelli between 1482 and 1485.

The Golden Mean was written in Milan in 1496-1498 and published in Venice in 1509.

Despite predating the discovery of The Golden Mean, this painting's canvas fits the proportions of the ratio. Additionally, Venus' navel is at the golden ratio point of the height of her body. It's possible to create a golden ratio point of her body with several reasonable variations, but they all cross exactly at her navel, and at the bottom of her elbow.



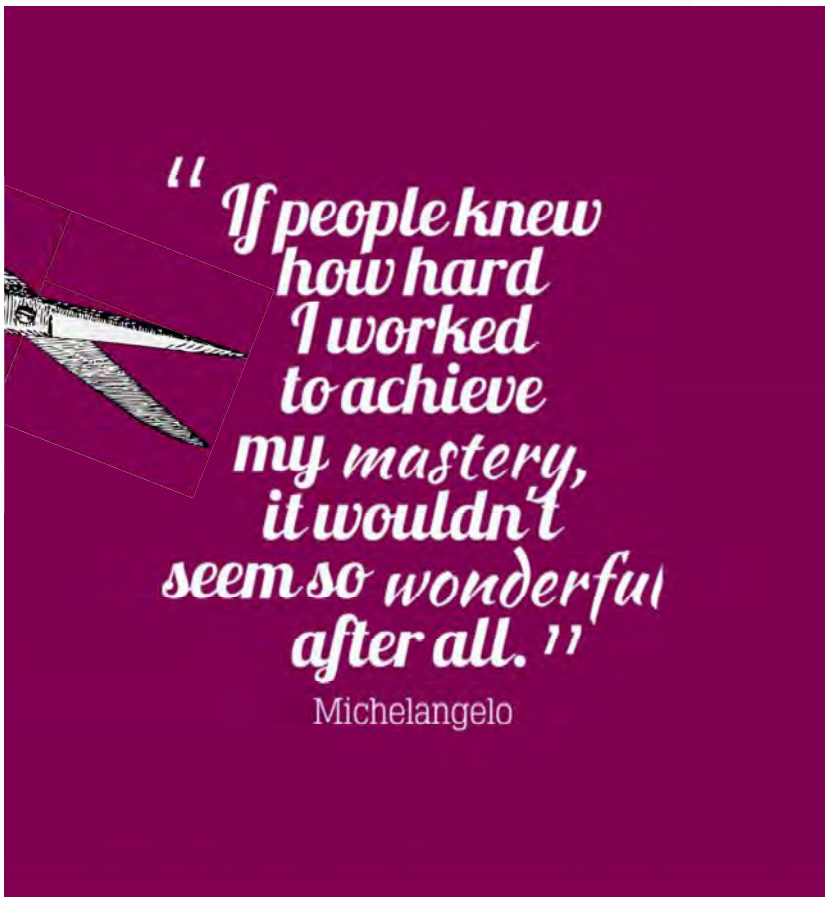
*Do you think Botticelli used the golden ratio intentionally or is it a coincidence that this painting features the divine proportions?*





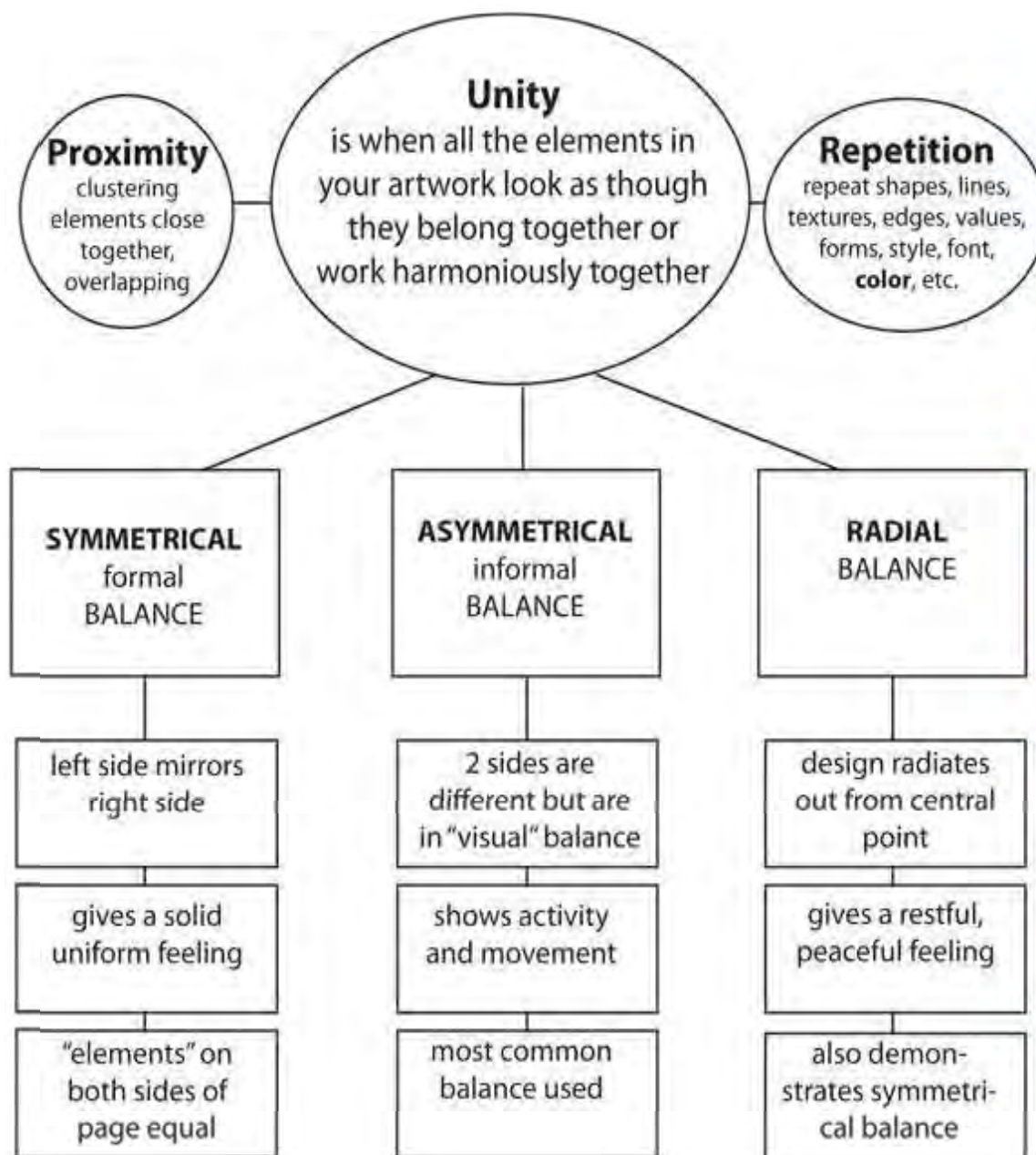
# Creativity

Copy the head of Venus out large on your own piece of paper. Using collage, pattern, colour or a combination of the three create your own Goddess of Love!





# Unity & Balance



Symmetry  
Personal art



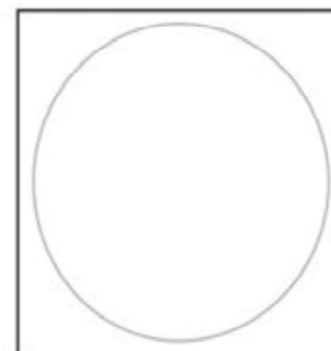
Asymmetry  
From Just Like Me



Radial  
Crosroads mandala  
from my sketchbook

"Tyger Tyger, burning bright, In the forests of the night; What immortal hand or eye, Could frame thy fearful symmetry?" William Blake

Create your own examples of each type of symmetry



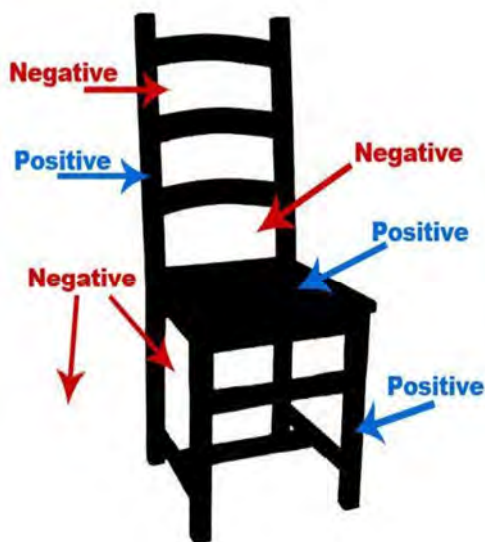
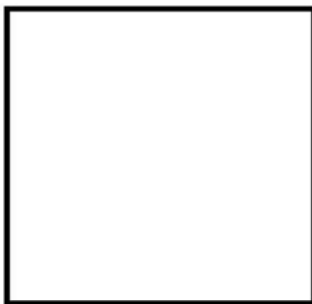
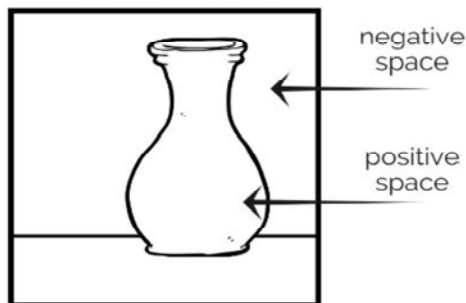


# Skill

Creating an effective Composition is about understanding how to use Space. Try this Negative Space exercise to test & develop this ability. This exercise will also enable you to create art with high contrast.

## THE ELEMENT OF SPACE

Space refers to the area within and around an object.  
Create your own example of positive and negative space.



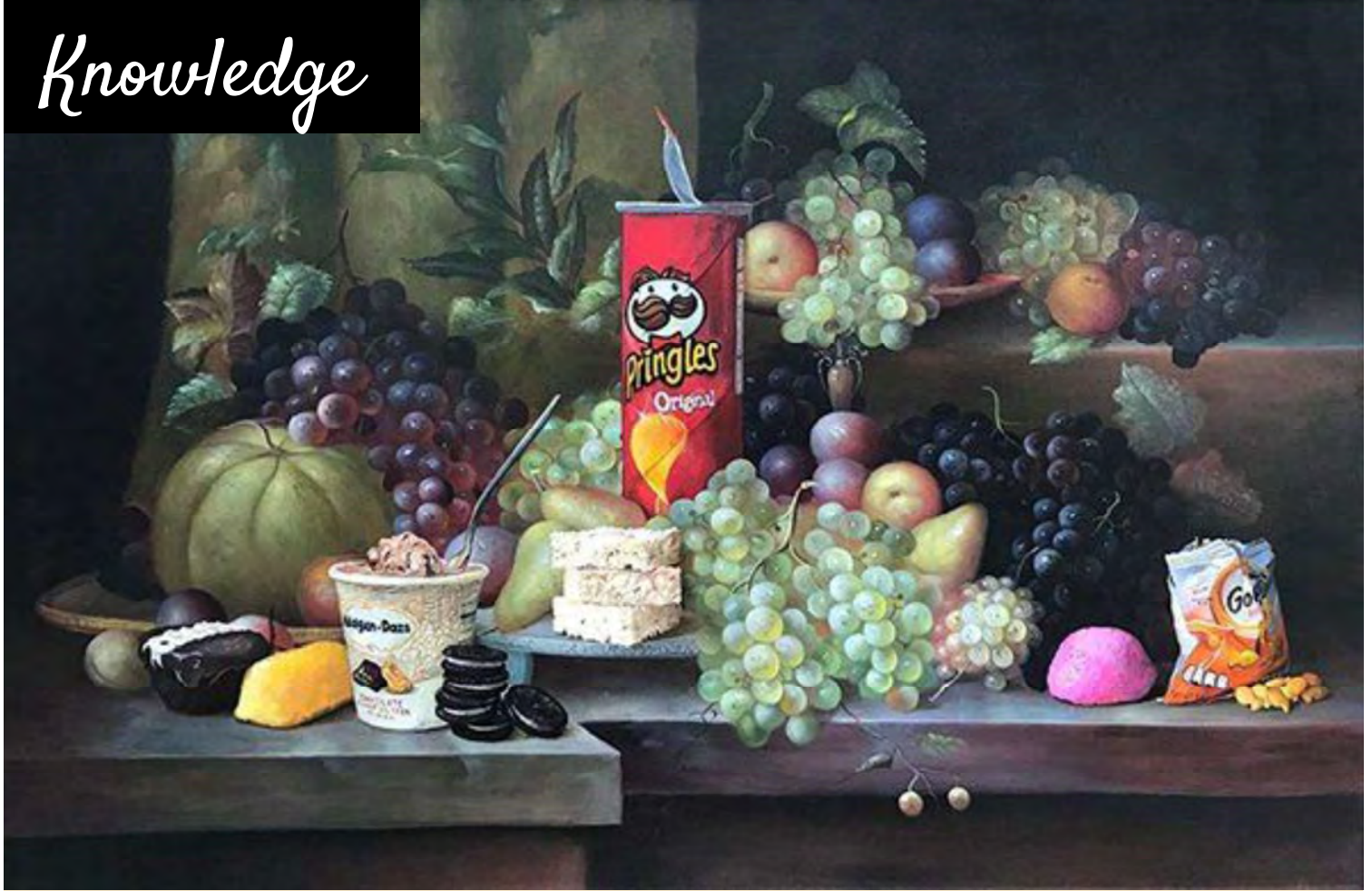
1. Find a plant or chair you like.
2. Use a pencil to lightly sketch the contour of the plant.
3. Add tone or black to the exterior (negative) space of the composition.



- Positive space is the area INSIDE of an object.
- Negative space is the area AROUND an object.
- Contrast (in art) is the arrangement of opposite elements (light & dark, small & large shapes, rough & smooth textures).







## What is it?

- **Still life** is defined as a collection of inanimate objects arranged together in a specific way.
- The magic of still life paintings is that they can show us a new way of looking at the ordinary objects around us. Once they are placed into a specific arrangement and then captured in paint, the light and and shades.



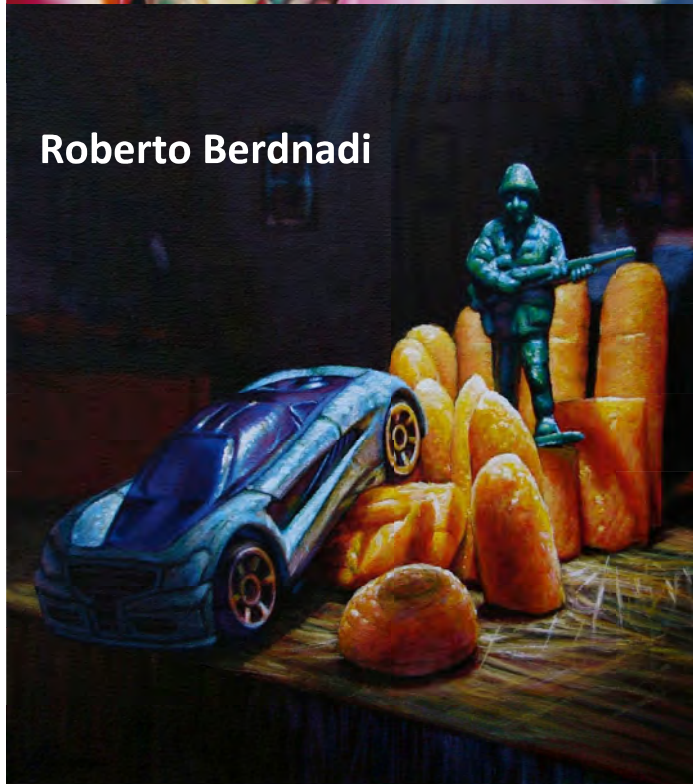
# Inspiration



Sarah Graham



Paul Cezanne



Roberto Berdnadi



Tim Wessleman



Ian Bodnaryk





# Skill

Observational drawing directly from a still life that you've set up is one of the best ways to develop your skills as an artist. Your work will have much greater depth & realism as you are working from actual objects rather than from a flat image.

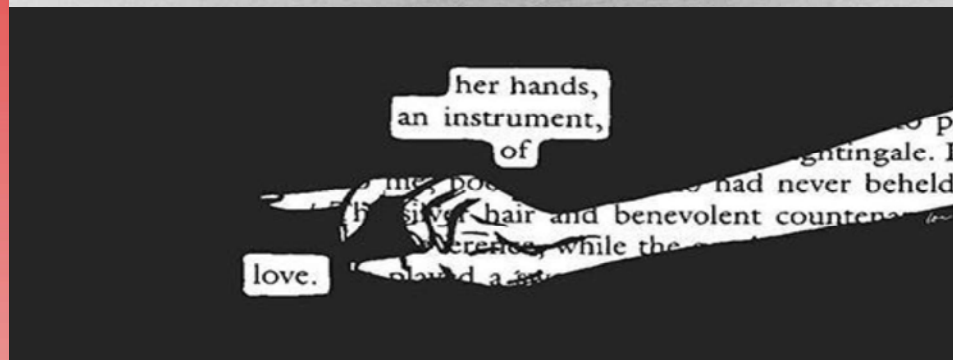
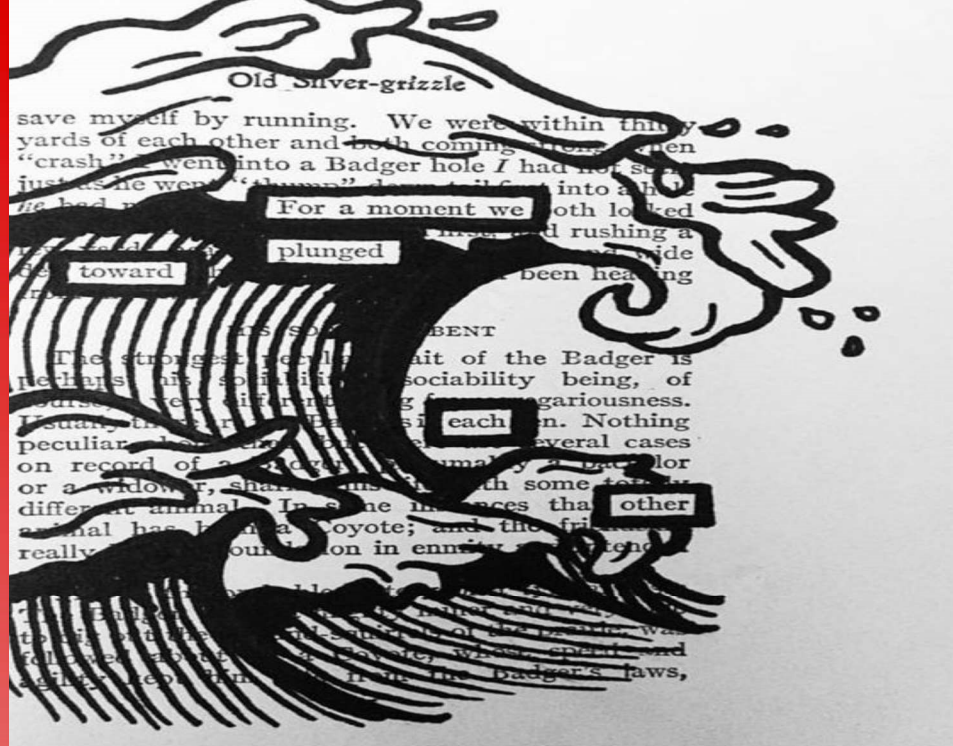
1. Use one of the Composition Rules and a few everyday objects you have at home to set up a still life.
2. Use a pencil to lightly sketch the main shapes carefully observing your still life.
3. Use the sequence below as a guide- you can finish your work using colouring pencils if you wish.



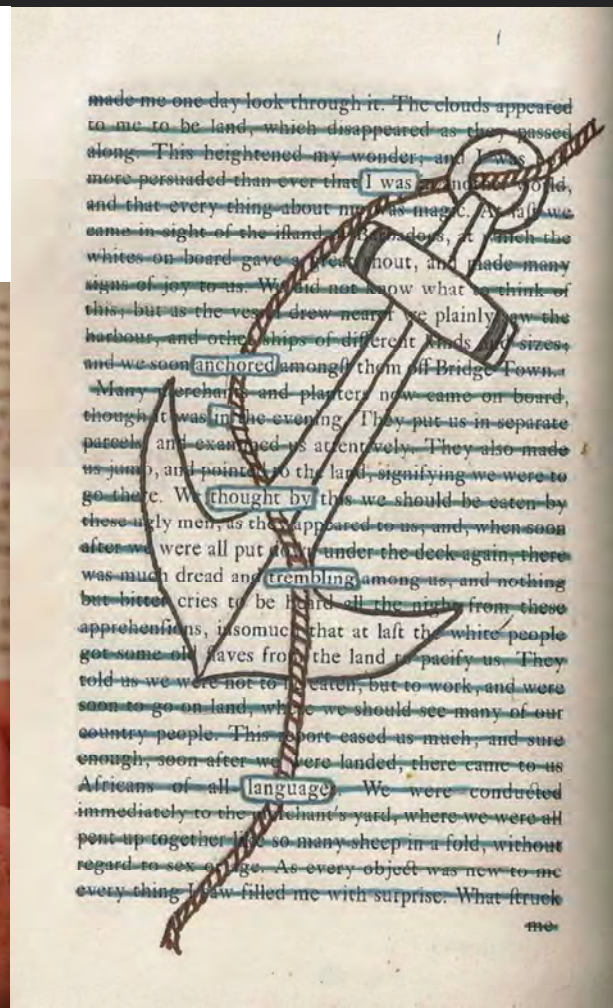


# Inspiration

Use your imagination and your collage skills in the next activity to create your own 'Found Poem'. Here are some examples to get your creative juices flowing.



"A picture is a poem without words"  
- Horace



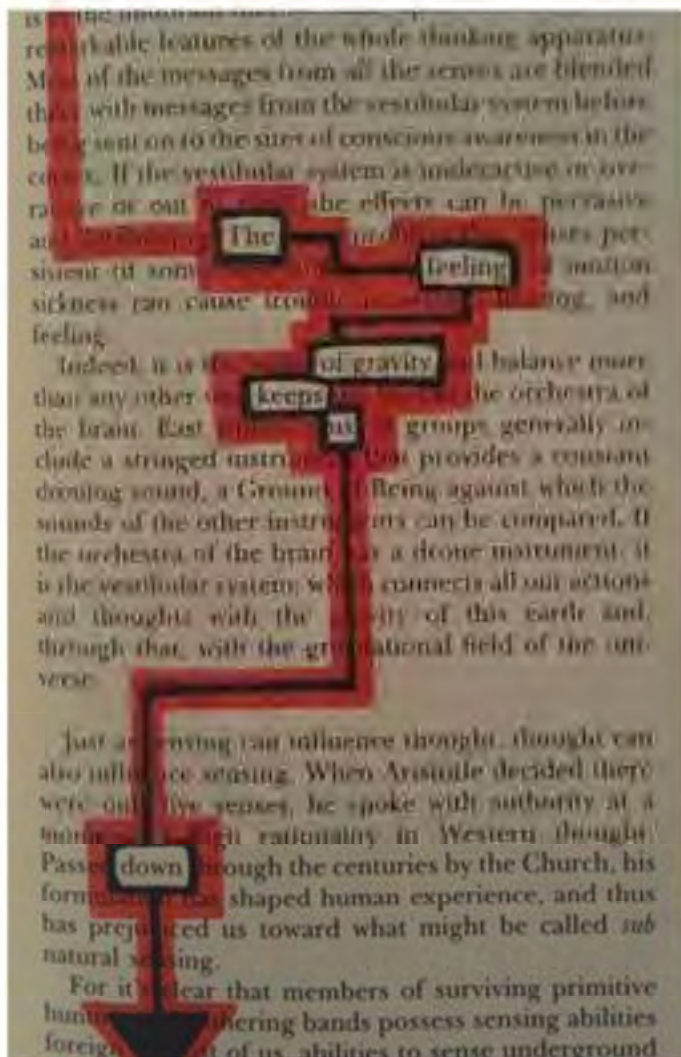


## FOUND POETRY

Found Poetry is a form of poetry composed of words, lines, or phrases from other sources, and making it something new.

On a book page (or photocopy), compose a found poem by circling or boxing specific words. The poem must make sense when it is read from the top of the page to the bottom, from the left of the page to the right.

Decorate or illustrate your page after you have selected your words and phrases to finish off your found poem. Your decoration should play off or highlight a theme of your new poem.





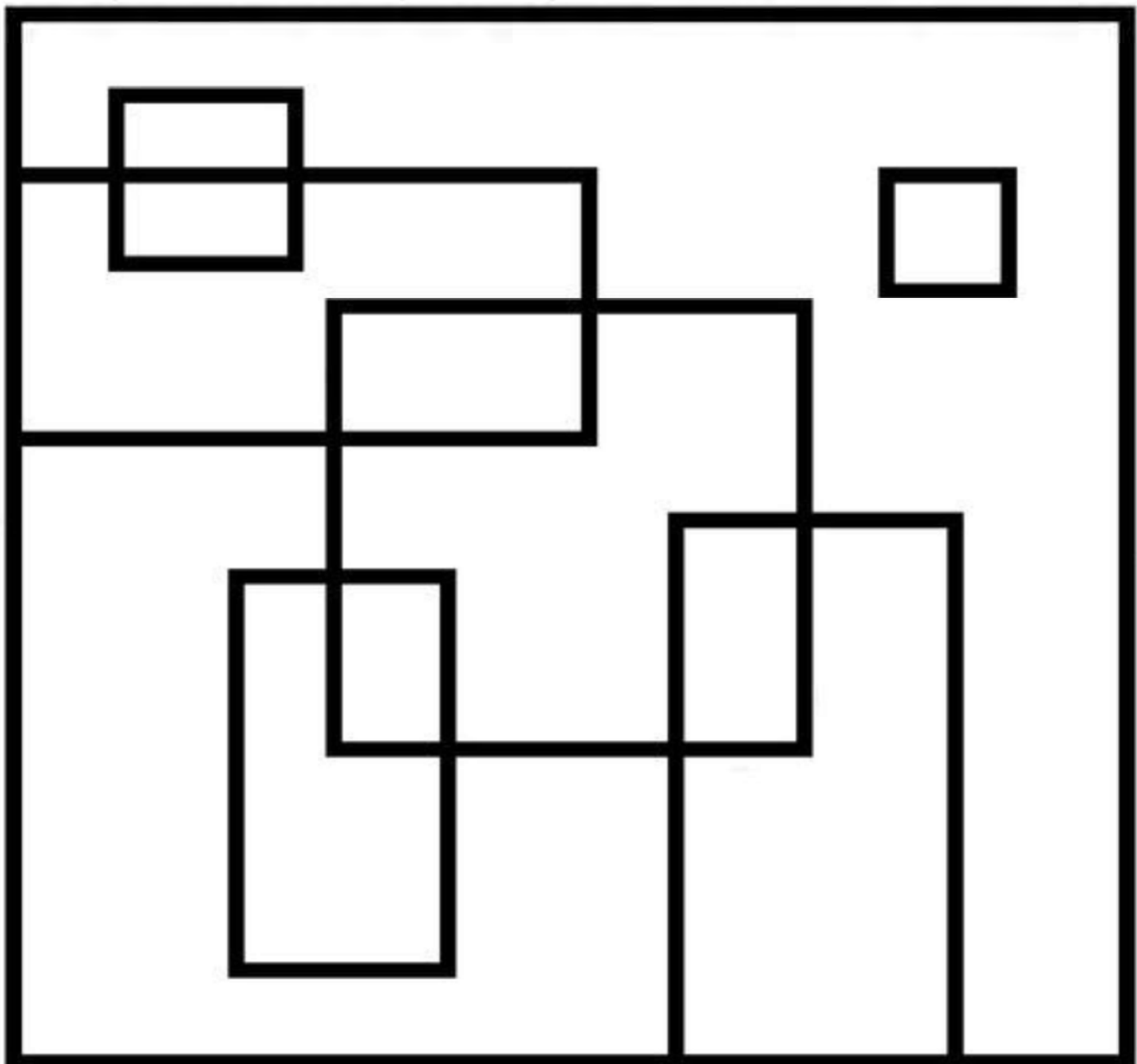
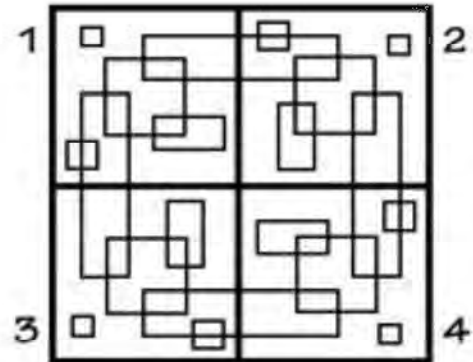
# Challenge

Piet Mondrian is well known for his simple, geometric compositions. Work with 3 other humans to create your own collaborative composition. Follow the instructions below. Use primary colours or create your own colour scheme.



## COLLABORATE!

This DETAIL represents 1/4 of a picture.  
Add *your* unique COLOR, PATTERN, DESIGN -  
then come together with three of your  
classmates to form a whole picture.  
*For best results* each COLLABORATOR works  
independently until the parts are joined!





## *Skill*

Choose a drawing technique (Observational, Upside-down, Grid) to complete your own 'Lichtenstudy'. (For Grid Method see next page). Focus on neatness and accuracy. Add your own colour scheme to complete the pop portrait.



**Girl with Hair Ribbon, 1965**  
**Roy Lichtenstein**



*Skill*

