

Spooky Shadows and Autumnal Art: Year 5 Halloween Masterclass

Learning objective: To explore the artistic techniques of light, shadow, and silhouette, and apply them to autumnal and spooky-themed compositions.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of artistic terminology and techniques. Read the front, think of the answer, then reveal the back to check your understanding.

What is a silhouette?

An outline of an object filled in with a solid colour, usually black, against a lighter background.

Define 'Chiaroscuro' in the context of spooky art.

A technique using strong contrasts between light and dark to give the illusion of volume and dramatic atmosphere.

How does 'negative space' help when drawing a pumpkin?

It refers to the empty space around the pumpkin, which helps the artist define the shape and edges more accurately.

What is 'contrast' and why is it important in Halloween-themed art?

The difference between elements like light and dark or bright and dull colours; it creates visual impact and mood.

Define 'composition' in an artwork.

The way in which the different elements of a piece of art are arranged or placed within the frame.

What is a 'warm hue' and how could it be used in an autumnal scene?

Colours like red, orange, and yellow; used to represent autumn leaves or the glow of a lantern.

Explain the role of 'foreground' in a drawing of a haunted house.

The part of the image closest to the viewer; details here should be larger and more defined to create depth.

What does 'symmetry' imply in a pattern-based spooky design?

When both sides of an image are identical or balanced, often used for spiderwebs or decorative masks.

How does changing the 'tone' of a colour affect an image?

Adding white or black to a hue changes its lightness or darkness, which is essential for creating shadows and highlights.

What is 'atmosphere' in a creative piece?

The overall feeling or mood created by the artist through the choice of colour, lighting, and subject matter.

Justify why an artist might choose a low-key lighting scheme for a Halloween portrait.

To create a sense of mystery, fear, or tension by limiting the light and focusing on deep shadows.

Compare and contrast a detailed pencil sketch of a bat with a silhouette of one.

A sketch shows texture, anatomy, and detail, whereas a silhouette focuses purely on the iconic shape and profile.