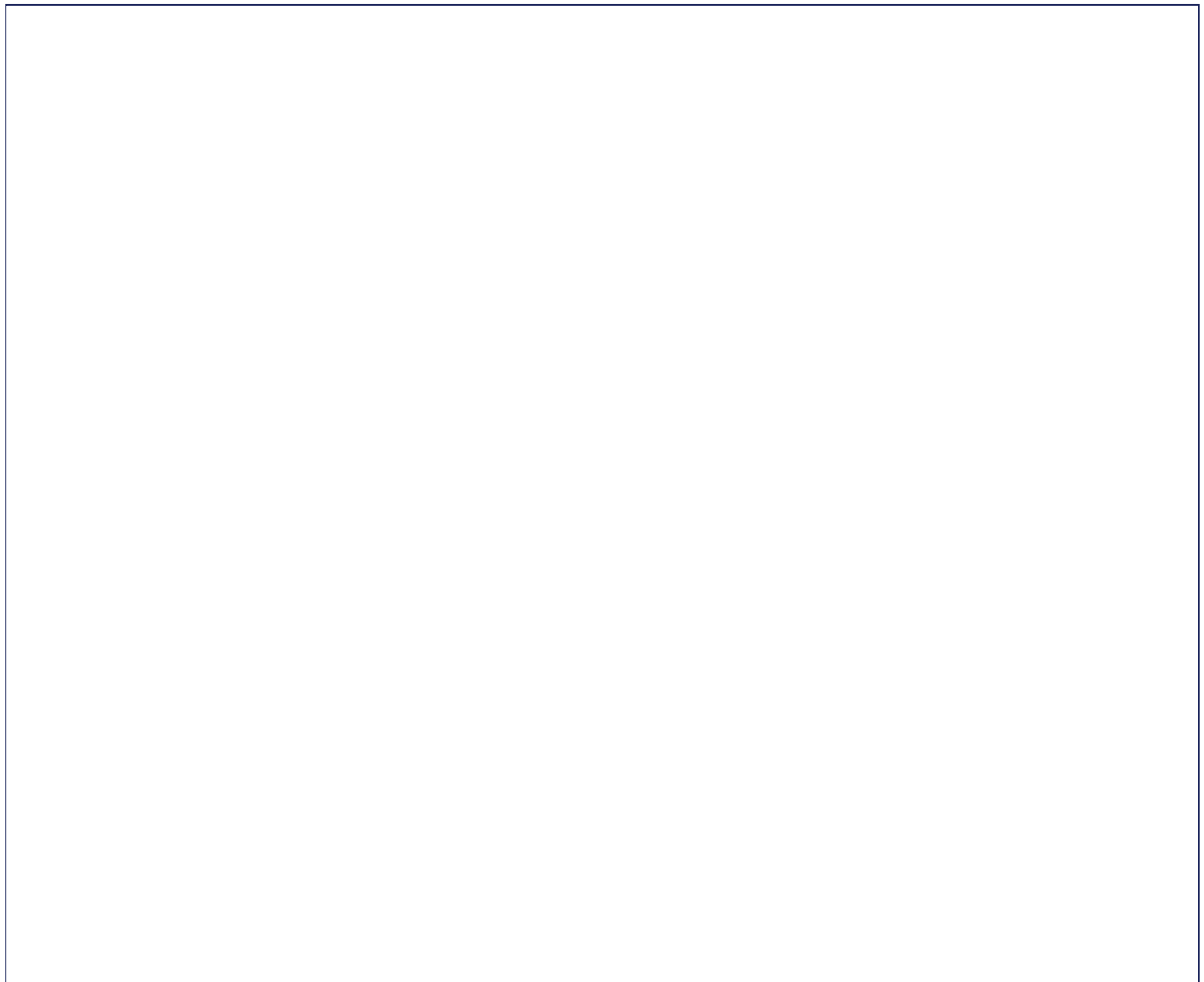


Abstract Expressions: Inspired by Kandinsky

Learning objective: To explore the abstract art style of Wassily Kandinsky, focusing on the relationship between geometric shapes, vibrant colours, and rhythmic composition.

Follow the steps below to create your own abstract masterpiece. Focus on how shapes and colours can convey a sense of movement or sound, just as Kandinsky did in his famous studies of 'synaesthesia'. Use your sketchbook to experiment with your layout before committing to your final piece.

Draw: Create an abstract composition on an A4 sheet. Include at least five circles of varying sizes, some overlapping and some containing smaller concentric rings. Integrate sharp, angular triangles that point towards the edges of the paper to provide contrast. Use a mixture of bold, saturated primary colours and softer, muted tones. Add thin, charcoal-style lines that weave through the shapes to connect the composition. Ensure there is a sense of 'movement'—the shapes should look as though they are floating or colliding across the page.



Label words: geometric · abstract · composition · rhythm · primary colours · contrast · vibration · asymmetry

Steps:

1. Explain why Kandinsky might have chosen to use sharp, jagged lines in one section of a painting and soft, circular shapes in another. What mood does each create?

2. Compare and contrast the use of primary colours versus secondary colours in creating 'visual vibration'.
3. Step 1: Sketch three overlapping circles of different sizes in the centre of your page. Label the point where they intersect.
4. Step 2: Add a series of straight, intersecting lines that cut across the circles to create a feeling of 'rhythm'.
5. Justify your choice of colour palette. How do your chosen colours represent a specific musical mood (e.g., fast and chaotic or slow and calm)?
6. What might happen to the balance of your composition if you removed all the straight lines? Explain your reasoning.