

# VISUAL ARTS

## INTRODUCTION

The public assessment of this subject is based on the Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4–6) Visual Arts jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. Candidates have to refer to the Guide for the knowledge, understanding, skills etc. they are required to demonstrate in the assessment.

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the public examination include the assessment of candidates' ability to:

- describe, analyse, interpret and evaluate artwork in writing;
- select and manipulate visual language, media, materials, tools and techniques appropriate for the creative expression and communication of a topic/theme or for solving a particular problem.

The objectives of SBA include the assessment of candidates' ability to:

- generate ideas through observation, experience, imagination, technology and other skills;
- develop themes of personal feelings or ideas, or social-related issues or ideas for problem solving through identifying, selecting and organizing primary and secondary resources;
- analyse, interpret and make critical judgment of artwork/art phenomena showing understanding of form, purpose, meaning and context in writing;
- transform and integrate experiences, knowledge and perspectives constructed from art appreciation and criticism, and other areas into art making practice;
- explore, select and manipulate appropriate visual language, media, materials, tools, skills, techniques and imagery for creative expression and communication of a theme or for the solving of a particular problem;
- continuously reflect on, respond to and evaluate their own and others' practice and work, and consequently modify their own work.

## MODE OF ASSESSMENT

The public assessment will consist of a public examination component and a school-based assessment component as outlined in the following table:

| Component                     |   | Weighting | Duration |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------|----------|
| Public Examination            | <b>Choose either Paper 1 or Paper 2.</b><br>Paper 1- Visual presentation of a theme<br>Paper 2- Design<br><br>Each paper is divided into two parts:<br>Part A 10%<br>Part B 40% | 50%       | 4 hours  |
| School-based Assessment (SBA) | <b>Submit ONE portfolio which should consist of:</b><br>(a) Research workbook (20%)<br>(b) Artwork/Critical studies (30%)   | 50%       |          |

## **PUBLIC EXAMINATION**

The overall rationale of the public examination in Visual Arts is to assess candidates' performance in the visual arts. Both written presentation on critical appreciation of works of art from personal knowledge and production of a work of art will be used to assess candidates' performance in a broad range of skills and abilities in the two learning strands: *Visual arts appreciation and criticism in context* and *Visual arts making*.

Candidates must attempt ONE of the following examination papers. Each paper provides a choice of five questions. Each question provides reproduction artwork and may include relevant reference information for appreciation. Candidates are allowed to use reference materials during the examination.

### **Paper 1: Visual Presentation of a Theme**

Candidates are required to work in two dimensions in any media, style or technique, choosing one question from the five given, and to work on the following two parts:

Part A: Art Appreciation and Criticism (45 minutes)

Write a critical appreciation of the reproductions of artwork provided.

Part B: Visual Arts Making (3 hours and 15 minutes)

Create a piece of artwork to present a theme. Candidates may submit a creative brief which may include notes, sketches or layouts produced during the examination to support their artwork, if necessary. The practical work and the creative brief will be assessed as a whole and no separate marks will be awarded to the creative brief.

The theme(s) are deliberately broad, giving candidates as much freedom as possible for their interpretation. This examination paper will assess candidates' understanding and appreciation of artwork and artistic visual presentation of a theme.

### **Paper 2: Design**

Candidates are required to design in any media, style or technique choosing one question from the five given, and to work on the following two parts:

Part A: Design Appreciation and Criticism (45 minutes)

Write a critical appreciation of the reproductions of design provided.

Part B: Design (3 hours and 15 minutes)

Solve design problem(s) and present a design work. Candidates may submit a design brief which may include notes, sketches or layouts produced during the examination to support their design work, if necessary. The practical work and the design brief will be assessed as a whole and no separate marks will be awarded to the design brief.

Examples of problems set might be a poster, a greeting card, signage, stationery, a book, a journal, packaging, a toy, fashion and accessory, etc. This examination paper will assess candidates' understanding of design and their ability to solve given design problem(s) in any innovative way.

## SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)

**SBA is compulsory for all school candidates.** Candidates will be assessed by portfolios, which enable the assessment of candidates' sustained work and provide a more comprehensive picture of their performance throughout the period of study.

Details of the SBA assessment requirements are as follows:

|               | Assessment task   | Subject weighting |
|---------------|---|-------------------|
| One Portfolio | Research workbook   | 20%               |
|               | Four pieces of Artwork / Critical Studies<br>(of which at least one piece of work must be an Artwork) | 30%               |

Candidates are required to submit **ONE** portfolio which should consist of:

**(a) Research Workbook** (presentations on art appreciation and criticism in context in relation to art making/critical studies and research processes) showing:

- evidence (e.g. sketches, photographs, notes) of how ideas are generated and recorded through observation, experience, imagination, technology and other skills;
- exploration and development of a theme/topic for art appreciation and criticism, and art making;
- presentations on art appreciation and criticism in context in relation to art making/critical studies, with evidence of research into the socio-cultural and historical contexts of **more than one culture**; and criticism of artwork/art phenomena /visual cultures from different perspectives and with different aesthetic values to the candidates' own;
- how artists' work has influenced their own art making/critical studies;
- exploration of and experimentation with media, materials, skills and techniques for the presentation of the selected theme;
- reflection on, evaluation of and refining of their own work;

and

**(b) Artwork/Critical studies (four pieces** of work in the portfolio) for the presentation of the selected theme(s):

- All of the four pieces of work can be artwork, or one to three pieces of them can be critical studies;
- Any media, materials, skills and techniques can be used for the production of the artwork.

Candidates are required to keep good custody of their work for inspection and authentication purposes until the release of the HKDSE results.

Private candidates are required to submit **ONE portfolio** which should consist of a research workbook and **two pieces** of Artwork / Critical Studies (at least one piece of work should be an Artwork) to the HKEAA for assessment, which will constitute 50% of the final subject mark.

The detailed requirements, regulations, assessment criteria and guidelines are provided in the SBA Handbook for HKDSE Visual Arts published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority.