

# Art Theory and Vocabulary

## Colour

The colour wheel is used to show the relationships between colours.

There are three **Primary Colours** (red, yellow and blue). Primary colours are in their simplest form and cannot be made by mixing other colours.

**Secondary Colours** of which there are three (orange, green and violet), are separated by primary colours on the colour wheel. They are made by mixing two primary colours together:

e.g. red and yellow = orange;  
yellow and blue = green;  
blue and red = violet.

**Complementary Colours** are opposite primary and secondary colours on the colour wheel. They make contrasting, yet good combinations;

e.g. red and green;  
orange and blue;  
yellow and violet.

**Tertiary Colours** are made when two secondary colours are mixed together, for example orange and green to make olive.

**Harmonious Colours** are two colours that are next to each other on the colour wheel, for example yellow and orange.

## Tone

Degrees of lightness and darkness are conveyed using different tones. You can use a pencil to shade or make colours lighter or darker. Tones can help to create shape and form in drawings.

e.g.

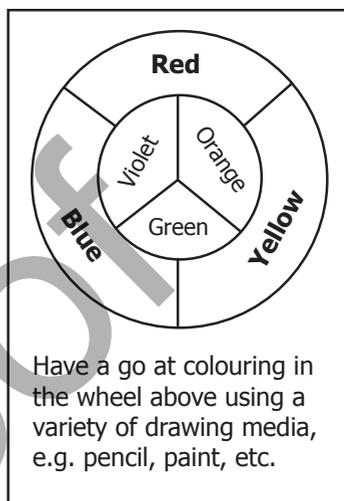


## Tint

A colour made lighter by adding white to it.

## Shade

A colour made darker by adding black to it.



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## Perspective

Perspective is used to create three-dimensional form in a two-dimensional space. Vanishing Points (VP) can be used to establish where parallel lines converge, with distant objects appearing smaller and closer together than those in the foreground.



When you understand the meanings of the following three words, fill in the spaces with the drawings to help you remember them:

<b>Form</b> A solid three-dimensional shape.	<b>Pattern</b> When shapes, colours of lines are repeated or arranged together.	<b>Texture</b> How the surface of something feels or looks.

## Words used in Art

- abstract - not realistic.
- chromatic - coloured.
- collage - artwork create by sticking paper, fabric, etc., to a surface.
- composition - the arrangement of different objects in a work of art.
- depth - conveying space and distance.
- expressive - lively, full of life and movement.
- form - creating shape and structure.
- glaze - a layer of semi-transparent colour.
- impasto - paint applied thickly.
- kiln - a large oven used for firing pottery.
- linocut - a design carved into a linoleum tile, for use as a print block.
- maquette - small preliminary model or sculpture.
- monochrome - using one colour in varying tones.
- realism - the objective representation of a scene.
- spectrum - the range of colours created by a prism (see colour wheel).