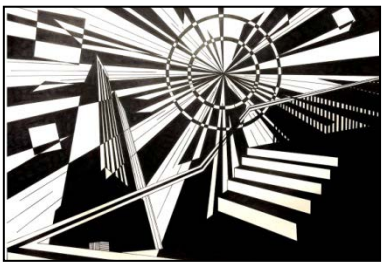
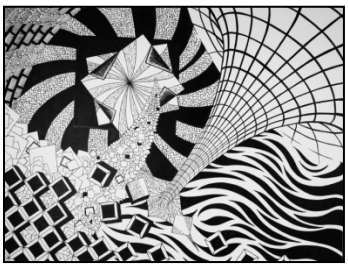
Inter-regional subject Olympiads of KFU
profile "Design"
2025-2026 academic year
Grades 10-11

Design is the process of creating a harmonious and functional environment, whether it be an industrial product, a website, or something else. One of the primary tasks of design is the ability to compose graphical compositions.

Abstract graphic composition — an artwork based on non-representational elements (points, lines, spots, geometric shapes) intended to express emotions, ideas, or concepts rather than realistically depicting objects.
It utilizes composition principles such as balance, rhythm, and contrast to organize these elements and direct the viewer's attention.







Main Features:

Absence of Representation: The goal is to convey inner sensations or abstract ideas rather than depict the real world.
Use of Graphic Elements: The primary "building blocks" are points, lines, tonal spots, strokes, and textures.
Emotional Impact: The artist aims to evoke specific feelings or associations in the viewer by using elements such as tone, shape, and their combinations.
Balance: An even distribution of the "weight" of elements on the surface, creating a sense of stability.
Rhythm: The repetition or alternation of elements to create either static or dynamic effects.
Contrast: The use of opposing elements (e.g., light and dark, big and small) to create highlights and attract attention.
Compositional Center: A focal point that draws the viewer's attention.
Harmony: The combination of elements that creates a sense of unity and coherence in the artwork.

Task description:

Create one creative abstract graphic composition on the theme "SPACE".

The composition is drawn from imagination (from mental imagery) using geometric shapes (at least 5), lines, and spots. The use of others' ready-made works, plagiarism, is not allowed!

The drawing is executed with a graphite pencil (pencils of varying softness may be used) on an A3 sheet.

Recommended completion time – up to 2 hours.

Approximate stages of work:

1. Layout: Determining the general location of objects and their proportions on a plane.
2. Stylization: Simplification of shapes, changing their contours and creating a decorative effect.
3. Tone: Work on a composition in pencil (tone – shading or hatching), filling in the shape of objects, a given rhythm and contrast. We break down the work into light and dark spots with the addition of semitones.
4. Highlighting the compositional center: we emphasize the main thing in the work (saturation or lightness, detailing, shape different from the background, and other techniques).
5. Generalization: checking the integrity of the work and the subordination of all the elements of the still life to each other.

Drawing requirements:

The drawing is linear-tonal (transparent shading or one-way shading) to reveal the compositional center, depth, chiaroscuro and planning.

When performing a graphic composition, the following tasks are solved:

The composition of a creative work is a way of constructing a work, which includes the arrangement, ratio and connection of its elements (shapes, lines, spots of tone) to create a holistic image and convey the author's idea. It serves as the "skeleton" of the work, ensures its unity, harmony and directs the viewer's attention.

Layout on a sheet. It is necessary to choose a competent format of work (rectangle or square) and the correct orientation of the sheet (vertical or horizontal), corresponding to the proportions of the intended composition. Within the sheet, it is necessary to harmoniously place all the objects that make up a stylized still life or abstract composition so that the composition of the sheet is balanced, not too crowded and not too loose.

Proportional ratios of drawing objects. It is necessary to convey the beautiful proportional proportions of objects among themselves, the rhythms of shapes and spots.

Transmitting the location of objects in the work space. It can be carried out using geometric transformations (movements), such as parallel transfer, central, axial or mirror symmetry, as well as rotations. This concept also includes artistic techniques, such as planning and perspective, to convey volume and depth in a flat image.

Technical transfer of graphic techniques and means of composition. It is allowed to use a transparent tone (hatching). It is mandatory to use elements such as rhythm/meter, contrast/nuance, symmetry/asymmetry to harmoniously arrange the elements into a single whole. The goal is to direct the viewer's attention, convey an idea, and evoke the right emotions by structuring the image.

Transfer of volume and depth, use of tone. Tonal techniques such as chiaroscuro, contrast, tone gradation, and shading are used to convey volume and depth in a drawing. Tone gradation helps to convey depth, making more distant objects less contrasting and more muted. Aerial perspective – as objects move away from the viewer, the contrast and intensity of tonal ratios decrease.

The quality of the performance and the overall artistic impression is the technical side of the work, which includes the author's skill in using selected materials and techniques, and the overall artistic impression is the emotional and intellectual reaction of the viewer, formed on the basis of the totality of all the elements of the work. Both aspects are interrelated: the high quality of the performance enhances the artistic impression, allowing the viewer to better understand and feel the author's idea expressed in the work.

The completed work must be scanned or photographed and attached to your personal account in the format.jpeg or .pdf.

Please note that for high-quality transmission of fine lines and tonal ratios, it is necessary to adjust the photographing or scanning mode accordingly. If you are photographing your work, make sure that you choose a frontal angle and the work is not distorted.

Evaluation criteria:

The works of the qualifying stage are evaluated on a 100-point scale.

Criteria	*Maximum score*
Composition of creative work	30
Layout on a sheet	10
Proportional relations of drawing objects	10
Competent transmission of the location of objects in space	5
Competent technical transfer of graphic techniques and means of composition	20
Transfer of volume and depth, use of tone	10
The quality of the performance and the overall artistic impression	15