Year 9

Complete all tasks

TASK 1

Draw a pepper using either pencil or pen and wash. Draw this on A4 cartridge paper.

Example of a drawn pepper. You can draw from this pepper or you can draw from a real pepper.
Replicate these different textures using pen and wash and/or pencil. Draw this on A4 paper. Are there any other textures you can replicate?
TASK 3

Make a research paper on the visual art genre *Vanitas*. Use the information below as a starting point and make sure to use your own words. How does this link to our theme of the object?

A *vanitas* is a symbolic work of art showing the transience of life, the futility of pleasure, and the certainty of death, often contrasting symbols of wealth and symbols of *ephemerality* and death. Best-known are *vanitas* still lifes, a common genre in *Netherlandish art* of the 16th and 17th centuries; they have also been created at other times and in other *media* and *genres*.¹⁰

Vanitas themes were common in medieval funerary art, with most surviving examples in sculpture. By the 15th century, these could be extremely morbid and explicit, reflecting an increased obsession with death and decay also seen in the *Ars moriendi*, the *Danse Macabre*, and the overlapping motif of the *Memento mori*. From the Renaissance such motifs gradually became more indirect and, as the still-life genre became popular, found a home there. Paintings executed in the vanitas style were meant to remind viewers of the transience of life, the futility of pleasure, and the certainty of death. They also provided a moral justification for painting attractive objects.

Common vanitas symbols include skulls, which are a reminder of the certainty of death; rotten fruit (decay); bubbles (the brevity of life and suddenness of death); smoke, watches, and hourglasses (the brevity of life); and musical instruments (brevity and the ephemeral nature of life). Fruit, flowers and butterflies can be interpreted in the same way, and a peeled lemon was, like life, attractive to look at but bitter to taste. Art historians debate how much, and how seriously, the vanitas theme is implied in still-life paintings without explicit imagery such as a skull. As in much moralistic genre painting, the enjoyment evoked by the sensuous depiction of the subject is in a certain conflict with the moralistic message.¹⁰

*Composition of flowers* is a less obvious style of Vanitas by *Abraham Mignon* in the *National Museum, Warsaw*. Barely visible amid vivid and perilous nature (snakes, poisonous mushrooms), a bird skeleton is a symbol of vanity and shortness of life.
TASK 4

Draw an object from different angles. Use an A4 page for this.

Example of keys drawn from different angles.

Use a pencil for this task
Task 5

Create a still life of objects found around the house.

Example of objects found around the house. Use a pencil for this task.
A4 cartridge paper.