

Successful concentrations ideas used in AP Studio Art by students throughout the country in the past

1. Abandonment of both places and people. Student works at a nursing home and some were of abandoned places.
2. Evolution of Illness: Student's grandma had Parkinson's disease and so she illustrated through photographic collage, stitching and writing the process of that illness on her grandma's memory, physical ability. Each image (portrait of grandma) had a poem she'd written about the grandma interspersed. She printed images on silk organza and layered them with drawings that depicted anatomical body parts effected by the disease. The portrait became blurrier and blurrier with image. (2D Design mixed media)
3. Identity: Hiding behind masks and other roles that we play, specifically women. The student started out photographing people wearing masks, but eventually move away from this and developed a broader interpretation of how we hide behind our roles as women "masking" who we are.
4. Illustrating a field trip to a historical farm emphasizing the antiques, tools, etc of the historical period.
5. Painting friends in different historical time periods through costumes and settings. Each friend was illustrated in an era and costume that was their current passion like dance, acting, etc.
6. Series of work based on places a student visited that her deceased father had visited. She used mixed media...photography, collage, painting for a drawing portfolio. Illustrating a story using an artistic style like fauvism.
7. Portraying events of short duration.
8. Painted abstractions derived from microscopic cellular structures.
9. Works inspired by a story about the first flower blooming on the site of the Cambodian "killing fields".
10. Life in celebrity culture: Voyeurism into other people's humiliation, pain, weakness, and betrayal.
11. Society based on most efficiency: Explore the most efficient system for: living, food, education, birth, transportation, etc.
12. Mixed media images of plant material juxtaposed with manmade objects.
13. Abstractions derived from still lives of household objects.
14. The body as landscape.
15. Ugly (wasn't so ugly at all – lots of mixed media and inspiration from Banksy)
16. Hands and feet
17. Unusual environments
18. Masks (interpreted – how do we hide?)
19. War (inspired by a Viet Nam Vet, but grew to all conflicts)
20. Large close-ups of insects that evolved into very graphic interpretations
21. Light ---what is light?
22. Wings – how do we fly?
23. Water theme. Water as metaphor.
24. Documentary style works of local veterans who fought in Afghanistan--2D Design.
25. Fruits – from their growth on trees through picking, processing, selling and consumption by people
26. Self Portraiture in action (at play) from early childhood to later childhood with a focus on color and texture
27. Kitchen objects set up to represent cellular structures (in biology) with dramatic lighting and usage of color
28. Focus on Vermeer, setting up friends and relatives in the positions of famous paintings and drawings by the artist and then emulating the set ups in the students' own work (dramatic natural light, models involved in daily routines)
29. Fauvist style landscapes of places that have meaning for you
30. Favorite book or poem illustrated in a specific style (exaggerated perspective)

31. Trip overseas for 2D design, creating posters, flyers, magazine covers to advertise the country (using photos that you have taken yourself)
32. Human influences on the environment, using photos the student took of aesthetically unpleasing human made structures (oil rigs, factories, etc.) Student then developed the photos and used them to do hand coloring, collage and experimental mixed media techniques, finding the beauty within the ugliness
33. Close Ups of machines – engine parts, factory machines, etc. combined with exaggerated 3D effects and specific usage of color (i.e. warm/cool, analogous, etc.)
34. Choose a particular artist/or style and emulate it, setting up your own people/objects/landscapes or abstractions
35. Animal shelter
36. Self-portraits with grid overlays/ variations within each grid. (Chuck Close)
37. Hands in various positions and media (MC Escher)
38. Reflections on a variety of surfaces
39. Expanded Images (for example images in images or inspiration from David Hockney's work)
40. Insects with a colorful and humorous viewpoint
41. Expressive landscapes painted using specific color schemes and mixed media
42. Flowers, from realistic evolving to abstract using photographic techniques such as macro and tilt shift
43. Flight shown in extremely technical drawings (including digital drawings) and paintings which included sinking helicopters in the jungle as well as birds on a wire, UFO's over the southwest.
44. Winged Creatures- drawn in high detail-moths , bats, bees
45. Landscapes from my route home from school.
46. Cultural costumes.
47. Children as consumers and advertising.
48. Effects on the American children (age 8 to 18) spending 7.5 hrs. per day using electronic devices.
49. Cultural heritage as a resource for exploitation. Instead of producing new works, past works are picked over, recycles, remixed regurgitated or repurposed.
50. Subject dealing with fake corporate and commercial meaning in our lives.
51. The journey of fruit as it travels thousands of miles by plane and truck and emits 12 lbs. of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.
52. Childhood overconsumption of "anything"
53. Altered books based on love gone sour, or other unique themes, such as travel journals
54. Cultures - began with ethnic cultures expanded to include tourists, homeless, etc.
55. Feathers
56. Loneliness/estrangement
57. interpretations of famous Fairy Tales
58. micro views - which become abstractions
59. body language
60. loss of father/parent - the missing person at seminal events
61. environmental consciousness
62. fabric textures
63. A cross country meet
64. Construction, based on photos of sites
65. Rear view mirrors
66. Glamorized 1940s jewelry
67. Barriers
68. Bras
69. members of my family through portraits of their feet
70. porches in my neighborhood

71. Seven deadly sins with the addition of her own 5
72. bareness (both literal and metaphorical)
73. vegetables, or food in general
74. the dramatic figure (figures with theatrical lighting)
75. dance movements from different cultures
76. Idiosyncrasies (portraits revealing this in her friends)
77. smaller than normal size/scale
78. an examination of what is real or mirage using faces and masks
79. illustration of a story about a girl building a sailboat, losing it, and buying it back
80. freedom of expression: what it looks like
81. portraits of the everyday moods of my dog
82. overcoming depression
83. trophy as empty compared to the fulfillment of running and playing soccer
84. resistance
85. Synthetic environment rivals nature as a driving force in our lives
86. Breakdown of community
87. Insecurity of social roles
88. Stresses of modernity and globalization
89. Chemicals in the air, water and food affecting our brains in unknown ways.
90. Digital rewiring of our brains in unhealthy ways
91. Noise used to be rain, wind and people talking, now it is roar of traffic, drone of fridge, buzz of monitor....and it is constantly being cranked up.
92. Stimulation addiction, or constant brain buzz (jog with earphones, sleep with iPhone, work with music, etc.) and its effect
93. Corporate advertising as large psychological experiment on human race: The average American receives 3,000 marketing messages per day. What is its impact?
94. Erosion of empathy, due to overexposure to violence, pseudo-sex, rape, torture, genocide, etc. on prime-time TV
95. Alice in Wonderland theme comparing parts of the story to a teenagers life;
96. Roller coasters and their structure turning it into abstract design;
97. The jungle versus concrete jungle-starting with the jungle and inserting elements of the city life taking over the jungle.
98. Consequences of cultural homogenization or lack of diversity, e.g. same hairstyles, catchphrases, action-hero antics, etc.
99. Experience of information overload, drowning in an endless stream of connectivity, or experiencing digital daze: Inability to concentrate, feeling foggy, anxious, and fatigued.
100. Compare one person's worldly possessions throughout history or in different parts of the world (e.g. the shoes of Gandhi vs. the shoes of Imelda Marcos)
101. Alternative Historical Processes
102. Lighting as a main Element
 - a. Silhouette
 - b. Magic Hour
 - c. Studio Lighting
 - d. Modifying Shadows
 - e. Portrait Lighting
 - f. Lighting and Reflections
 - g. Lighting and Textures
 - h. Flash photography

103. Macro
 - a. Paul Strand
 - b. Edward Weston
 - c. Harold Edgerton
104. Positive/ Negative Space
105. Documentary Photography
106. Illustration
107. Multi Image Production
 - a. Triptychs
 - b. David Hockney
108. Direct Un-manipulated Image
109. Social Change
110. Book Making/ Photo Essays
111. Environmental/ Conservation Florida Photography
112. Light Painting
113. Human form
 - a. Weston
114. Collage
115. Photo Stitching

116. Surrealism
 - a. Montage
 - b. Dali
 - c. Jerry Uelsman
 - d. Maggie Taylor
117. Shadow Play
118. Narrative Still Life
119. Image Stacking
120. Long Exposure

However, many 5's have also been achieved by addressing simple topics:
Bottles, Groups of Friends, Telephone Poles, etc.

Caution, unsuccessful concentrations ideas used in AP Studio Art have included the following because the theme can be too vague:

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|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| • Portraits of emotions | • Faces | • Self portraits | • Dance |
| • People who shape me | • Flowers | • Music | |
| • Nature in general | • Eyes | • Everyday life objects | |
| • Memories in general | • Family and friends | • Goddess/myth | |
| • Shocking viewers with the bizarre | • Reflective surfaces | • "Different cultures" | |
| • Surrealism | • Illustration of inner thoughts | • Guitars | |
| | • Moments I was happy | • Reflections | |
| | | • "Ideas of beauty" | |