



EMPHASIS

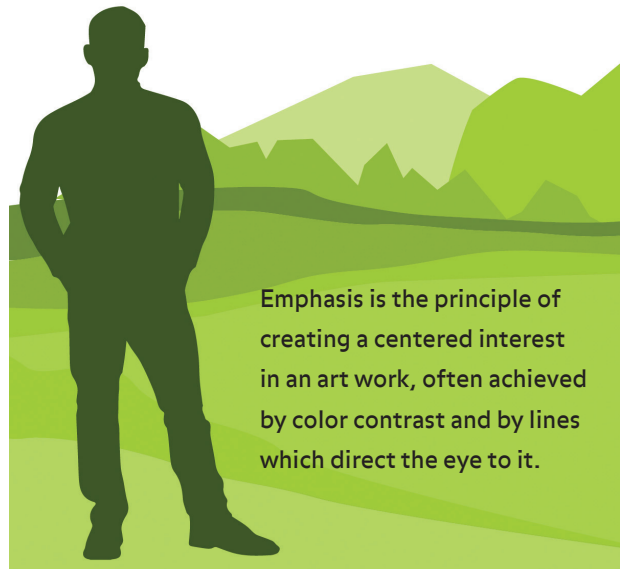
one of the seven Principles of Art

EMPHASIS is used to attract a viewer's attention to the focal point, or main subject, of an artwork. For example, in a portrait the artist usually wants you to see the subject's face first, so the artist will use color, contrast, and placement to direct where your eye is attracted. A piece of art may have more than one area of emphasis, but one usually dominates over all others because multiple areas of focus with equal importance creates confusion for the viewer.

Subordination is the technique artists use to de-emphasize certain elements in a work of art to make certain the main subject stands out. For instance, if an artist uses a dark tone

for the focal point the rest of a painting may be done in muted tones so the viewer's eye is automatically drawn to the darkest tone. When the subject is in the foreground or significantly larger than the other items in the image, it becomes the focal point because the perspective or depth draw us in. Emphasis can also be created by strategically placing the main subject in areas of the composition that are known to attract attention; that may be directly in the center of the artwork, but more often than not it is off to one side or another. The subject might also be isolated from other elements through placement, tone, or depth.

An artist may make their focal point obvious by using color, value, texture, tone, size, placement, and depth to demonstrate emphasis. Other times, they may use more subtle techniques such as repetition or interruptions of a pattern to draw attention and get noticed. Now, when you look at a work of art, think about emphasis.



Emphasis is the principle of creating a centered interest in an art work, often achieved by color contrast and by lines which direct the eye to it.

WHAT DO YOU SEE? What did you see at first glance in the work of art? When you study the artwork, where does your eye naturally go and then how does it travel across the piece? What is the main focal point? What techniques did the artist use to capture your attention and then make your eyes move through the art?



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WORD SEARCH

Look up and down and across to find these 20 emphasis words:

ACCENT

ATTENTION

COLOR

COMPOSITION

CONTRAST

DEPTH

DOMINANCE

EMPHASIS

FOCAL POINT

IMPORTANCE

PERSPECTIVE

PLACEMENT

REPETITION

SCALE

SIZE

SUBORDINATE

TEXTURE

TONE

UNITY

VALUE

O	Q	J	M	F	C	O	M	P	O	S	I	T	I	O	N	H
N	T	Y	R	K	O	D	E	Z	C	A	D	R	Q	F	U	G
V	C	M	W	M	B	S	U	B	O	R	D	I	N	A	T	E
R	P	V	A	L	U	E	B	Z	L	Y	H	S	B	V	Y	V
E	E	G	P	Y	E	A	D	N	O	Y	R	D	Y	V	V	I
P	R	U	L	P	D	U	E	P	R	G	I	X	Y	D	A	M
E	S	M	A	F	O	C	A	L	P	O	I	N	T	W	A	P
T	P	M	C	S	I	Z	E	D	E	P	T	H	R	M	E	O
I	E	S	E	Y	W	L	C	O	N	T	R	A	S	T	M	R
T	C	G	M	D	O	M	I	N	A	N	C	E	S	V	P	T
I	T	T	E	X	T	U	R	E	T	D	I	E	C	W	H	A
O	I	W	N	P	A	C	C	E	N	T	E	Y	A	G	A	N
N	V	T	T	L	A	O	U	T	O	N	E	S	L	U	S	C
Y	E	I	F	Y	J	K	H	U	R	D	A	Q	E	J	I	E
D	L	B	U	N	I	T	Y	L	Q	A	R	C	D	G	S	E
A	T	T	E	N	T	I	O	N	F	S	W	W	H	A	I	D
X	O	A	G	A	H	C	V	T	L	X	B	X	C	B	E	U



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WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to unscramble these 20 EMPHASIS words:

1. ENCCTA _____
2. OAIETNNTT _____
3. LCROO _____
4. NITMPOCOOSI _____
5. NTTSOCAR _____
6. DPTHE _____
7. EIDONCAMN _____
8. SHMSAEIP _____
9. OFALC OITNP _____
10. MCRAOTNIPE _____
11. EEETIPRCSPV _____
12. EECNPAMTL _____
13. ETRPINOEIT _____
14. ECALS _____
15. IESZ _____
16. DTERNASUOBI _____
17. URXETET _____
18. ONET _____
19. UINYT _____
20. VLAEU _____



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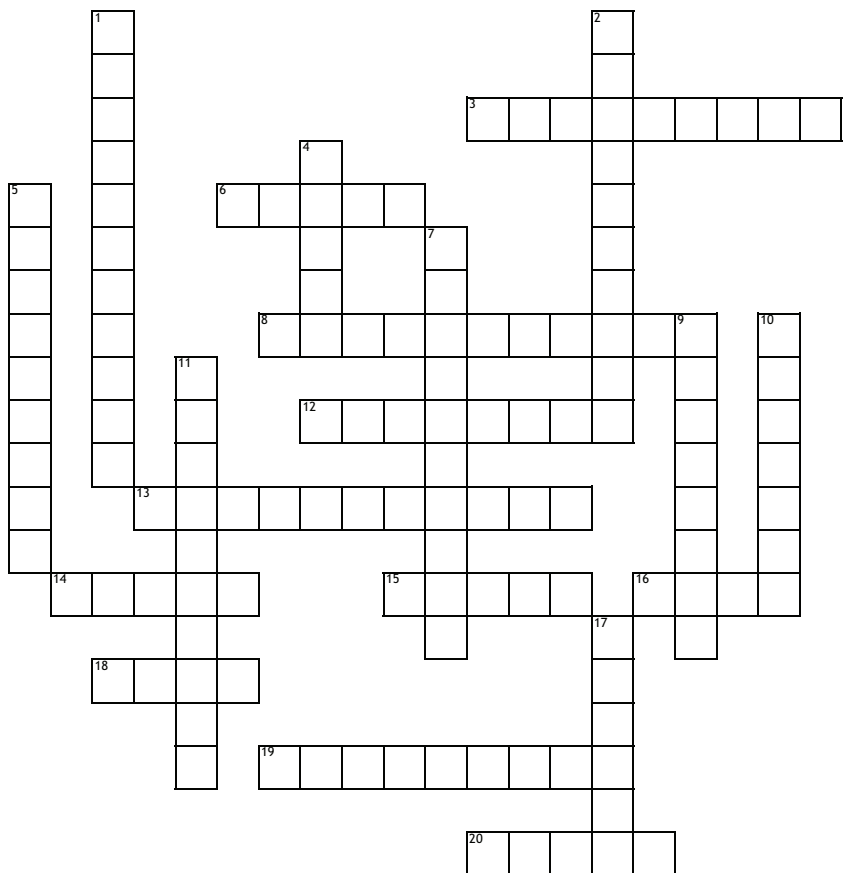
CROSSWORD

Across

3. arranging things in a particular order, place, or format
6. the size of an object in relationship to another object
8. a three-dimensional feeling to a flat image
12. a distinct difference between elements of a form or composition
13. the placement or arrangement of visual elements in a work of art
14. to make the parts of a painting work together as a whole, visual relatedness
15. primary, secondary, and tertiary
16. relative or proportionate dimensions
18. the quality of color (warm or cold, bright or dull, light or dark, etc.)
19. an object or color that stands out in relation to the rest of the work of art

Down

1. to make secondary
2. the area in the composition to which the viewer's eye is naturally drawn (two words)
4. the visible lightness or darkness of a color
5. a selective narrowing or focusing of consciousness and receptivity
7. exactly the same over and over
9. to attract the viewer's attention to a particular area or object
10. a tactile quality of an object's surface. may be real or implied
11. the quality or state of being important
17. an emphasis laid on a part of an artistic design or composition



1. Subordinate; 2. Focal Point; 3. Placement; 4. Value; 5. Depth; 6. Scale; 7. Repetition; 8. Perspective; 9. Emphasis; 10. Texture; 11. Importance; 12. Contrast; 13. Composition; 14. Unity; 15. Color; 16. Size; 17. Accent; 18. Tone; 19. Dominance; 20. Depth