



KNOX
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

REGIONAL

DA VINCI DECATHLON 2023

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS
IN YEARS 9 & 10



ART AND POETRY

TEAM NUMBER _____

| Total | Rank |
|-------|------|
| /40 | |

CONTROLLED CHAOS

BACKGROUND

Sometimes, visual art can be a chaotic medium. What appears on a canvas might not immediately make sense to an audience. However, the joy of such works is their chaos. The audience is required to tease out their meaning, which they can only achieve through focus, critical thinking, and a strong engagement with the art in front of them.



One of the most chaotic artistic movements is abstract expressionism. Developed in the 1940s, abstract expressionism encourages freedom of thought, expressing emotion, and not feeling limited. Artists use this movement to communicate their feelings. They do so by using dynamic colour schemes, intense or rapid brush strokes, and even different textures.

One of the most famous artists from this movement is Jackson Pollock, who painted *Convergence* (pictured right). Take a look at this piece, and keep the above information in mind as you go about this task!

THE TASK

1. Create an artwork that employs the characteristics of abstract expressionism. These characteristics can be found in the Background of this task. This artwork must depict an emotion/s or feeling/s. It may be two- or three-dimensional.
2. Create a poem that identifies and explores the feelings raised in the artwork. The poem must communicate what the feeling is, who may be feeling it, and why. The individual, group, or scenario can be decided by your team.
3. The poem must be thematically, symbolically, or physically linked with the artwork, utilising language to achieve what is expressed above. It may take any form.
4. When completing the artwork, only use coloured pencils. If you are making it three-dimensional, only use scissors, glue, or sticky tape to connect your pieces together – no staples or staplers.

Please take note of the following:

- The poem must be connected to the artwork physically, symbolically or thematically.
- Think about the emotion or feeling your team wishes to represent and emphasise this in your artwork and poem!
- The story behind the artwork can be inspired by real-life events, but does not have to be. In either situation, make sure adequate context is included where necessary.
- Where appropriate, please clearly include the team number in the artwork.

MATERIALS TO BE PROVIDED

- Three sheets of white A4 paper (supplied)
- One sheet of white cardboard A4 paper (supplied)

MARKING CRITERIA

| MARKING CRITERIA | POEM | ARTWORK | | | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| Original interpretation of the task | 1 2 3 4 5 | 1 2 3 4 5 | | | | |
| Clarity of expression in the poem and use of abstract expressionism characteristics in the artwork | 1 2 3 4 5 | 1 2 3 4 5 | | | | |
| The thematic, symbolic, or physical interconnectedness of the poetry and artwork | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 | | | | | |
| The striking use of images and words in the artwork and poem collectively | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 | | | | | |
| TOTAL | /40 | | | | | |

END OF PAPER