



# Sculpture

**Sculptures vary enormously in their materials, techniques, scale, and effects. To explore how different artists create their sculptures, look at a range of works and answer these questions.**

## Materials

- What materials have been used to create the sculpture? Eg, wood, glass, metal, fabric, bronze, wax, shell, found objects, plastic, clay, wire, plaster, light sources, speakers, digital technology, stone, rubber.

## Construction technique

- Was the sculpture made by hand or machine, or both? Describe which tools and construction techniques were used (eg, carving, sewing, weaving, joining, casting, welding, cutting, gluing, modelling, painting, relief, assemblage, binding, wrapping, projection, tying). What is the overall effect?

## Meaning

- What does the sculpture mean to you? Do you think the artist has used a particular technique to reinforce the work's meaning? If so, explain where and how. If the sculpture had been created differently with different materials, what effect might this have had on your interpretation? Does the sculpture remind you of anything?

## Process

- Does identifying the materials, tools, and construction techniques help you understand the artist's process? Consider these questions:
- Was the sculpture built in separate parts and then assembled?
- Does it have an internal support frame?
- Was it made commercially?
- Was more than one person involved in its creation?
- Were any elements of performance involved?
- How long would it have taken to create?
- How has the process of creating the work contributed to its overall impact?

# Sculpture

## Subject

- What is the subject matter of the work? Describe what issues and concepts you think it is exploring, and what cultural, historical, and social references it could be making.

## Colour

- Describe the range of colours used in the sculpture. Eg, natural, enhanced, warm, cool, bright, tonal, contrasting, symbolic, translucent, opaque.
- How does the colour affect your response to the work?

## Surface

- Is the surface of the work smooth or textured, or both? Are you allowed to touch it? If so, what does it feel like? If not, what do you think it might feel like? How has the texture been achieved?

## Display

- Is this work an installation (a 3-D work designed to transform the perception of a space)? If so, describe its relationship to the space. If not, describe the way it has been exhibited (eg, plinth, case, lighting, position, arrangement). What effect does this art work's display have on you?

## Scale

- How would you describe the way scale is used in the work? Eg, are elements miniature, enormous, out of proportion? Discuss how scale relates to the meaning of the work. What impact does the overall scale of the work have on you?

## Style

- How would you describe the style of the sculpture? Eg, realist, stylised, exaggerated, controlled, symbolic, classical, expressionistic, pop art, op art, commercial, minimal, modern, postmodern.
- Is the sculpture abstract or representational, or both? Describe the shapes (2-D) and forms (3-D). How does the style affect your response?

