

TEACHING STRATEGIES

COMPETENCY #1: Recognize the different types of line, horizontal, vertical, curved, diagonal, narrow and wide, as they relate to personal fashion.

Understand how texture relates to personal fashion.

CONCEPT: By understanding the principles of line and texture students will be able to make the most of the way they look.

MOTIVATOR: As students come into class, usher them into four sections:

1. those wearing vertical stripes or lines
2. those wearing horizontal stripes or lines
3. those wearing diagonal lines
4. those wearing curved lines

Ask the students if they can tell why they are grouped together. Discuss with them the different ways each of these lines appear in clothing design and how many fashions have more than one line included.

VOCABULARY:

HORIZONTAL lines are peaceful, solid lines, they are calming and add width.

VERTICAL lines are ridges and formal. They add height and draw the eye upwards.

CURVED lines are graceful and soft. They show movement and can be feminine.

DIAGONAL lines are active lines. They add excitement and movement, diagonal is a slimming line and can add drama to fashion.

NARROW AND WIDE lines refer to the width of one of the four other lines. The extent to which they affect the silhouette is determined by their size.

Example: a narrow or thin horizontal line will add some width, but not as much as a wide horizontal line will. Similarly, a narrow vertical line will add height, but not to the same extent a wide or bold vertical line will.

TEXTURE is the surface appearance of fabric.

PREPARATION

Find illustrations in fashion magazines and pattern books that will help students to visualize each type of line and how it is used in clothing design.

Find illustrations that show different types of textures, or collect fabric samples of as many different textures as possible.

UNIT ASSIGNMENTS

The assignments for this unit are given at the end of each competency. You may have the students keep their work in a folder or binder and turn it all in at the conclusion of this unit, or turn in each assignment at the end of each competency.

NOTE TO TEACHER: From a management perspective, it is much easier to have one large assignment and one grade.

LECTURE/DISCUSSION

This unit is called PRINCIPLES AND ELEMENTS OF FASHION DESIGN. We could call it the Principles and Elements of Your Personal Fashion Look. By understanding the principles we will be learning, you will be able to make the most of the way you look. We all have features we want to hide, and those that we can draw attention to. You will learn how to flatter your build, or body type.

LINES

Line is an important element of design. Each type of line has characteristics that distinguish them from each other. The characteristics of line can be found in the structure of clothes as well as in the design of fabric used to make the clothes. Each characteristic affects your appearance.

Discuss as a class each of the line types. Display posters or large pictures that illustrate each type of line as you discuss it. Refer back to students clothing for examples.

Lines in clothing are used in different ways. The shape formed by the outer lines of your clothing is called a silhouette. This is probably the most important design line in clothing. The silhouette encloses all other design lines in an outfit.

Lines in garments can be both structural and decorative. Structural lines are formed by seams and darts in the making of the garment.

Decorative lines are present in the fabric design or texture or can be made by applying trim, accessories or stitching. The lines in plaids, stripes, corduroys, patterned fabrics, and quilted fabrics become a part of a garment's design lines.

Review posters and students clothing to discover structural and decorative lines present.

LINE ASSIGNMENT

1. Find illustrations using pattern books or magazines of the 6 types of lines discussed in class: horizontal, vertical, curved, diagonal, narrow and wide.
2. Mount these on construction paper and label with the following information.
 - a. Name of the line
 - b. What effect does this line have on the body silhouette?
3. Write a paragraph telling which lines would be the most flattering and which line would be the least flattering to your body type.

TEXTURE

Texture is the one element you can see and feel.

Texture is found in the thickness and appearance of fabric. Words that describe texture are: loopy, fuzzy, furry, soft, shiny, dull, bulky, rough, crisp, smooth, sheer etc.

Texture is created by fiber type, by the weaving or knitting process, or by fabric finishes.

Texture that increase body size would be:

Shiny or glossy (because they reflect light)
Thick
Bulky, shaggy, fuzzy, wrinkled

Texture that decreases body size would be:

Dull (because they absorb light)
Thin to mid-weight
Smooth, flat surfaces

TEXTURE ASSIGNMENT

1. Collect 5 different texture samples. Label and mount on 3x5 cards.
2. Discuss which textures would flatter your personal figure type, and how you can use the principle of texture to improve your appearance.
3. Find and mount pictures from magazines that illustrate the types of textures that would look best on your figure type.