

2021 AP[®] Art and Design

2-D Art and Design Sustained Investigation

Row C: Materials, Processes, and Ideas

Written Evidence

Sustained Investigation

Identify the question(s) or inquiry that guided your sustained investigation.

Describe how your sustained investigation shows evidence of practice, experimentation, and revision guided by your question(s) or inquiry.

Response:

In my investigation, I explored how changes in lighting and composition affect a viewer's experience of food photography. I tried different intensities and temperatures of light. I also learned new food photography composition rules.

Lighting-wise, I began with brighter photos with less defined shadows as can be seen in piece 1. Later on, I tested darker and more direct shadows, adding character to pieces 13 and 14. I also played with different temperatures of light, first pairing bluer lighting with cold subjects such as the frozen cubes in piece 5. Then, I tried pairing warm lighting with the cold ice cream in piece 15.

Compositionally, I first used simple diagonal lines such as those in pieces 1 and 2. As I grew more comfortable behind the camera, I created more movement and interest with an s-curve in piece 3 and geometric repetition in piece 4. I also learned to frame the subject by balancing props along the edges of the photos in pieces 7 and 13.

I discovered that lighting affects the texture and mood of the food itself while composition affects the movement and focus of a photo.



Image 1

Sustained Investigation

Height: 10 inches

Width: 15 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, diagonals and geometric repetition, saturating greens



Image 2

Sustained Investigation

Height: 25 inches

Width: 20 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, visual weight and diagonal, color correction



Image 3

Sustained Investigation

Height: 15 inches

Width: 10 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared ingredients, props

Process(es): geometric repetition, visual weight, s-curve, saturating greens



Image 4

Sustained Investigation

Height: 15 inches

Width: 10 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, geometric repetition, saturating reds



Image 5

Sustained Investigation

Height: 15 inches

Width: 10 inches

Material(s): marble paper, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, test shots with ice cubes, color correction and sharpness



Image 6

Sustained Investigation

Height: 15 inches

Width: 10 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, tripod setup, color correction



Image 7

Sustained Investigation

Height: 21 inches

Width: 14 inches

Material(s): marble paper, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, framing, geometric repetition, color correction and sharpness



Image 8

Sustained Investigation

Height: 14 inches

Width: 19 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, backlighting, saturating reds and purples



Image 9

Sustained Investigation

Height: 12 inches

Width: 24.5 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, side lighting, desaturation, increasing contrast



Image 10

Sustained Investigation

Height: 14 inches

Width: 20.5 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): food preparation, side lighting, color correction and sharpness



Image 11

Sustained Investigation

Height: 12.5 inches

Width: 24.5 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props, tripod

Process(es): food preparation, side lighting, tripod setup, desaturation



Image 12

Sustained Investigation

Height: 14 inches

Width: 20.5 inches

Material(s): marble paper, prepared food, props, tripod

Process(es): food preparation, color planning, tripod setup, color correction



Image 13

Sustained Investigation

Height: 14 inches

Width: 20.5 inches

Material(s): backdrop, prepared food, props

Process(es): planning colors and framing and backlighting, food preparation, edits



Image 14

Sustained Investigation

Height: 14 inches

Width: 25 inches

Material(s): marble paper, prepared food, props, tripod

Process(es): food preparation, framing, side lighting, tripod setup, color correction



Image 15

Sustained Investigation

Height: 12.5 inches

Width: 24 inches

Material(s): backdrop, ice cream, props, tripod

Process(es): tripod setup, diagonals, warm direct lighting, sharpness and contrast

Sustained Investigation Scoring Rubric, Row C

C	Materials, Processes, and Ideas		
	1	2	3
	Little to no evidence of visual relationships among materials, processes, OR ideas.	Visual relationships among materials, processes, OR ideas are evident.	Visual relationships among materials processes, AND ideas are clearly evident and demonstrate synthesis.

Scoring Criteria

Row C: **Materials, Processes, and Ideas** – Score: 3

Visual relationships among materials, processes, **AND** ideas are **clearly evident** and **demonstrate synthesis**.

Score Rationale

Visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas are clearly evident and demonstrate synthesis in this portfolio. The written evidence states that the work explores “how changes in lighting and composition affect a viewer’s experience of food photography.” The artist’s intention is present in this portfolio and demonstrates an in-depth exploration of the subject.

The sustained investigation shows many clear and thoughtful design decisions. In addition, the work demonstrates development AND synthesis from the making of food to the coloring of the food: Images 1 and 8 highlight compositional choices and a comprehensive approach to preparing and manipulating visual forms.

Images 3 and 4 demonstrate varied choices of color, pattern, geometric repetition, and intentional compositional choices with dynamic outcomes. In images 9 and 14 the use of framing and lighting provides emphasis for the viewer. The artist writes: “I discovered that lighting affects the texture and mood of the food itself while composition affects the movement and focus of a photo.” “I also played with different temperatures of light, first pairing bluer lighting with cold subjects such as the frozen cubes in piece 5. Then, I tried pairing warm lighting with the cold ice cream in piece 15.” Finally, in image 15, the student’s choice of colored lighting to suggest temperature, in contrast with the temperature of the food, further develops the inquiry.

ALL images in this portfolio demonstrate a high level of achievement with materials, processes, and ideas.



Image 9



Image 14

Sustained Investigation Score: Row A: Score 3 • Row B: Score 3 • **Row C: Score 3** • Row D: Score 3