



2025 AP[®] 3-D Art and Design

Sustained Investigation

Analytic Scoring Rubric and Score Rationale

Row C—Score 1

Written Evidence

Sustained Investigation

Identify the inquiry that guided your sustained investigation.

Response:

How can I explore and reinterpret traditional Mexican ceramic aesthetics through experimental wheel-throwing techniques like section throwing and post-throwing manipulation, using bold carving and vibrant glazes to create innovative forms that celebrate both heritage and personal growth?

Describe ways your sustained investigation developed through practice, experimentation, and revision.

Response:

My sustained investigation developed through rigorous practice and refinement of section throwing to achieve greater height and stability in my forms. I experimented with post-throwing techniques to alter rims and surfaces, enhancing texture and movement. Through repeated trials, I improved my control over carving and glaze application, allowing me to balance structural integrity with expressive design rooted in tradition



Image 1

Sustained Investigation

Height: 8.6

Width: 6

Depth: 8.75

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

I used 5- 6 lbs of clay and shaped it into a bowl. Then flip one of them and connect it with coils.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

My piece was referenced by another person who made a similar one. But his was taller.



Image 2

Sustained Investigation

Height: 5.3

Width: 4.6

Depth: 5.2

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

I used 5- 6 lbs of clay and attempted to make a tall vase. I couldn't get the height

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

I wanted to reference this piece to a piece that I attempted to make very early on into the year.



Image 3

Sustained Investigation

Height: 6.6

Width: 5

Depth: 6.4

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

5- 5.5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it. this took multiple attempts.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): i didn't take any



Image 4

Sustained Investigation

Height: 5.8

Width: 4.6

Depth: 5.7

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

3-5 lbs of clay, I carved/trimmed, then I dipped it into two different glazes and sent to get fired.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 5

Sustained Investigation

Height: 6

Width: 4.2

Depth: 6.1

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

I used 5.5- 6.6 lbs of clay and attempted to make a tall vase. I couldn't get the height

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 6

Sustained Investigation

Height: 6.3

Width: 5.5

Depth: 6.1

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

4-5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 7

Sustained Investigation

Height: 5.8

Width: 4.7

Depth: 5.5

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

4-5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 8

Sustained Investigation

Height: 5.1

Width: 4.7

Depth: 5

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

3-4.5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 9

Sustained Investigation

Height: 3.2

Width: 4

Depth: 3.4

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

3-4 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 10

Sustained Investigation

Height: 3.5

Width: 4

Depth: 3.6

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

3-4 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 11

Sustained Investigation

Height: 4.3

Width: 3.8

Depth: 4.1

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

4 - 4.5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't use any



Image 12

Sustained Investigation

Height: 6.6

Width: 4.6

Depth: 6.4

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

4-5.5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): i didn't have any



Image 13

Sustained Investigation

Height: 3.4

Width: 4

Depth: 3.3

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

2-3.5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): i didn't have any



Image 14

Sustained Investigation

Height: 3.3

Width: 3.1

Depth: 3.2

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

2- 3.5 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): i didn't have any



Image 15

Sustained Investigation

Height: 3.1

Width: 3.3

Depth: 3.2

Materials:

Wheel machine, One Glaze, Carving tools

Process(es):

2- 4 lbs of clay, then I trimmed it to the right shape and glazed it.

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s): I didn't have any

Analytic Scoring Rubric Row C: Materials, Processes, and Ideas

1	2	3
Little to no evidence of visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas.	Visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas are evident .	Visual relationships among materials, processes, and ideas are evident and demonstrate synthesis .

Score Rationale

This portfolio earned a score of 1 because there is little to no visual evidence of relationships among materials, processes, and ideas. The stated inquiry to “reinterpret traditional Mexican ceramic aesthetics through experimental wheel-throwing techniques like section throwing and post-throwing manipulation” is not clearly demonstrated in the work. The finished forms are primarily small, symmetrical, wheel-thrown vessels with minimal alteration or carving. While Image 1 includes a banded middle section that suggests some form of post-throwing manipulation, most of the other works appear to follow the same wheel-thrown, trimmed, and glazed process without innovation in form or surface.

There is no visual evidence of bold carving, and little experimentation with structure, color placement, or composition that supports the stated intent to explore heritage or reinterpret tradition. The glazes, while varied slightly, remain within a dark and muted palette of mostly browns, greens, and dark blues with few examples of the “vibrant glazes” cited in the inquiry. The work lacks visual strategies that engage with traditional Mexican ceramic aesthetics or offer a reinterpretation of those traditions. Furthermore, there is no supporting visual documentation of reference material, glaze testing, or sketching that might clarify or expand the relationship between materials, processes, and ideas.

Summary: The visual evidence does not demonstrate synthesis. There is little to no connection between the stated inquiry and the forms, surface treatments, or material choices. These gaps support a score of 1 in Row C



Image 1



Image 15

Sustained Investigation Score: Row A: Score: 1 • Row B: Score: 1 • **Row C: Score: 1** • Row D: Score: 1