



2025 AP[®] 3-D Art and Design

Sustained Investigation

Analytic Scoring Rubric and Score Rationale

Row D—Score 2

Written Evidence

Sustained Investigation

Identify the inquiry that guided your sustained investigation.

Response:

Since elementary school, I have had a passion for Japanese novels, comics, games, tv & movies; I often go to my room and escape into the rich imaginary worlds I envision as I read, watch, & play. When deciding what to focus my SI on, it was a natural choice to embrace this part of myself. I am always consuming the artistry of others, and building pictures in my mind. But now it is my turn, and I asked myself: How can I create a fictional world of my own where my love for Japanese culture inspires the setting?

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

Response:

Inspired by the art of Japanese miniatures I began w/ a model of my bedroom, the place where my story with Japanese culture began. Next I experimented w/ the idea of a Japanese street-food restaurant as a setting for an imagined tale. Street food is integral to Japanese culture: a social hub where people come together. With this idea I built a ramen cart, a spot for characters to play out a plot! I then sculpted a sushi restaurant, a staple of Japanese tradition. After reflecting I revised my plan & made one unified build, a setting for endless stories to weave their tales through its streets.



Image 1

Sustained Investigation

Height: 8.5

Width: 8.5

Depth: 8.5

Materials:

Foam board, wooden sticks, felt, acrylic paint, clear plastic sheets, cardboard, museum board.

Process(es):

Constructed scale model of my bedroom inspired by Japanese miniature art.

Place I read, play & watch

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Image 2

Sustained Investigation

Height: 8.5

Width: 8.5

Depth: 8.5

Materials:

Foam board, wooden sticks, felt, acrylic paint, clear plastic sheets, cardboard, museum board.

Process(es):

Created my room where I escape into the fictional worlds and my passion for Japanese culture began

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva



Image 3

Sustained Investigation

Height: 8.5

Width: 8.5

Depth: 8.5

Materials:

Foam board, wooden sticks, felt, acrylic paint, clear plastic sheets, cardboard, museum board.

Process(es):

Made mini scaled versions of my Japanese games, movies, & books which influenced the idea for my SI

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva





Image 4

Sustained Investigation

Height: 9.1

Width: 5.5

Depth: 5.1

Materials:

Balsa wood, wood sticks, painter's tape, clear plastic sheets, acrylic paint, museum board, felt

Process(es):

Experimented/built Japanese street food restaurant, important social setting in Japanese culture

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Image 5

Sustained Investigation

Height: 9.1

Width: 5.5

Depth: 5.1

Materials:

Balsa wood, wood sticks, painter's tape, clear plastic sheets, acrylic paint, museum board, felt

Process(es):

Sculpted details to create more realism
& place rich w/possible story settings
pictured in my mind

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva



Image 6

Sustained Investigation

Height: 9.1

Width: 5.5

Depth: 5.1

Materials:

Balsa wood, wood sticks, painter's tape, clear plastic sheets, acrylic paint, museum board, felt

Process(es):

Incorporated the Japanese affinity for miniature detail and real life restaurants into my practice

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva

Citation(s): <https://surli.cc/xzbznw>

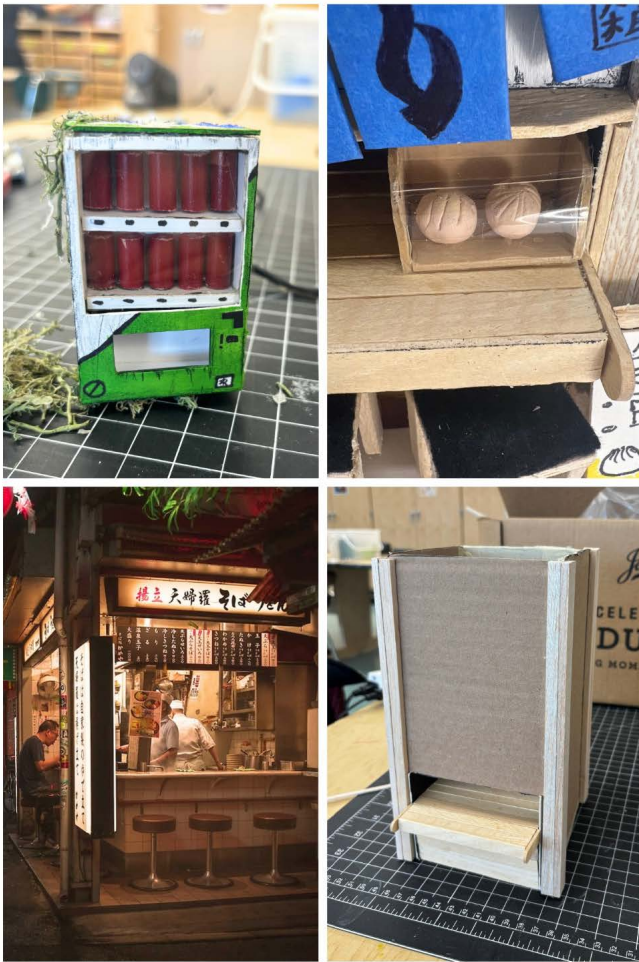




Image 7

Sustained Investigation

Height: 4.5

Width: 4

Depth: 3.6

Materials:

Cardboard, museum board, metal wire, wooden rods, wood sticks, aluminum foil

Process(es):

Built on food as culture idea for setting;

Fashioned ramen cart using wood and metal, like real one

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Image 8

Sustained Investigation

Height: 4.5

Width: 4

Depth: 3.6

Materials:

Cardboard, museum board, metal wire, wooden rods, wood sticks, aluminum foil

Process(es):

Constructed using skills learned from last piece, imagined all the characters that would eat here

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva

Citation(s):

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/754845587533316487/>





Image 9

Sustained Investigation

Height: 8.6

Width: 15.1

Depth: 10.7

Materials:

Museum board, wood sticks, acrylic paint, balsa wood, moss, paper, felt, string, bamboo sheets

Process(es):

Designed a frame of wood and board like real building construction to create a sushi restaurant

Use of Digital Tool(s): No



Image 10

Sustained Investigation

Height: 8.6

Width: 15.1

Depth: 10.7

Materials:

Museum board, wood sticks, acrylic paint, balsa wood, moss, paper, felt, string, bamboo sheets

Process(es):

Created a model inspired by my personal photo; Sushi restaurant symbol of Japanese tradition/culture

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva

Image 11

Sustained Investigation

Height: 8.6

Width: 15.1

Depth: 10.7

Materials:

Museum board, wood sticks, acrylic paint, balsa wood, moss, paper, felt, string, bamboo sheets

Process(es):

Sculpted intricate recreations of objects from real counterpart to bring my fictional world to life

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva



Image 12

Sustained Investigation

Height: 16.1

Width: 26.8

Depth: 31.1

Materials:

Model grass, wood sticks, Acrylic paint,
Tape, Balsa wood, Museum Board,
string, paper, LED lights

Process(es):

Reflected on collection of buildings &
revised plan; Built 1 cohesive world as
my fictional setting

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used: Canva





Image 13

Sustained Investigation

Height: 16.1

Width: 26.8

Depth: 31.1

Materials:

Model grass, wood sticks, Acrylic paint, Tape, Balsa wood, Museum Board, string, paper, LED lights

Process(es):

Fabricated a base to meld all together into singular world from my imagination;

Lighting sets mood

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Image 14

Sustained Investigation

Height: 1.75

Width: 0.88

Depth: 0.88

Materials: PLA Plastic

Process(es):

Designed & 3D printed detailed miniature objects for my set to enhance realism in my immersive world

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used:

Tinkercad, Creality Slicer, Canva

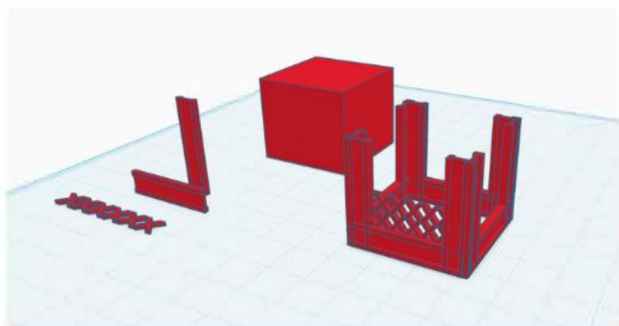
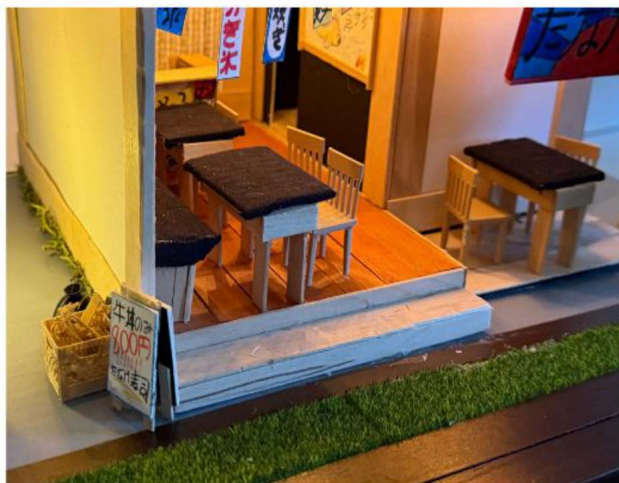




Image 15

Sustained Investigation

Height: 16.1

Width: 26.8

Depth: 31.1

Materials:

Model grass, wood sticks, Acrylic paint,
Tape, Balsa wood, Museum Board,
string, paper, LED lights

Process(es):

Connected my reality to the world
w/missing 4th wall of bedroom;Add
future modular designs possible

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Analytic Scoring Rubric Row D: 3-D Art and Design Skills		
1	2	3
Visual evidence of rudimentary and moderate 3-D skills.	Visual evidence of moderate and good 3-D skills.	Visual evidence of good and advanced 3-D skills.

Score Rationale

This portfolio earned a score of 2 in Row D because the visual evidence demonstrates moderate to good 3-D skills. The works are consistently well-constructed and show control over surface, texture, and compositional arrangement within miniature architectural models. Image 4 presents a carefully built street food restaurant with varying volumes and contrasting textures, such as the fabric draped stools and a well-defined entry structure. The use of painter's tape and layered materials adds interest and dimensionality, while color and signage establish a clear focal point and guide visual movement across the form.

In Image 12, the unified streetscape model uses lighting, scale, and architectural placement to suggest depth and atmosphere. Openings between buildings are positioned to evoke an alleyway or pedestrian path, showing awareness of unoccupied space. The overall composition reflects intentional spatial design and storytelling.

While most models are thoughtfully built, some choices, such as the oversized popsicle sticks in smaller structures, disrupt scale relationships and reduce refinement. The craft is strong, especially given the small scale, but the portfolio does not yet show the complexity or structural sophistication associated with advanced 3-D skill.

Summary: The portfolio demonstrates moderate to good 3-D skills through careful construction, control of scale and texture, and awareness of spatial composition. Some inconsistencies remain, supporting a score of 2 in Row D



Image 4



Image 12

Sustained Investigation Score: Row A: Score: 2 • Row B: Score: 2 • Row C: Score: 2 • **Row D: Score: 2**