Elements of Art

The elements form the basic vocabulary of visual design.

Space:

An illusion created through the use of overlapping, vertical location relative to horizon, value, amount of detail, size, use of vanishing points.

Value:

Value refers to the light or darkness of a color.

Color:

Color (or hue) is the way the human eye perceives reflected light.
A color wheel can explain the relationships that colors possess.
Colors have a variety of attributes, including intensity, value and hue.

Line:

Line is a path that leads the eye through space and records movement.
Line can enclose a shape
Line can express emotion

Shape:

Shape describes a 2-dimensional area that is defined in some way
Shapes may be open or closed, positive or negative, and free form or geometric

Form:

Form occurs when a 3-dimensional quality has been achieved in a shape.
Form may be implied by the use of tone and or shadow, or it may be actually three dimensional

Texture:

Texture refers to surface quality
Texture can be real or simulated – real texture can be seen and touched, simulated texture can't be interpreted by touching, it can only be seen.