

# GRAFFITI: ART OR VANDALISM?











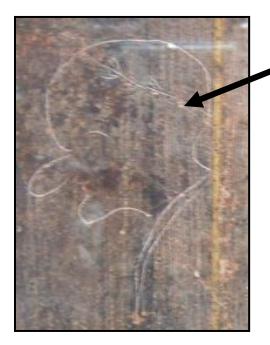
# WHAT IS

# **GRAFFITI?**

Writing or drawings made on a wall or other surface, usually without permission and within public view.

## **Believe IT OR NOT!**

- Graffiti has existed since ancient times, with examples dating back to ancient Egypt,
- ancient Greece, and the Roman Empire.
- There are examples in Greece and Italy. The word comes from the ancient word *Graffiato*.
- The ancient city of Pompeii has preserved examples of Graffiti.



This is an ancient caricature of a Roman Politician.

Much like nowadays, Graffiti often carried with it a political message.



# CAN IT BE BOTH?

### What's the difference?

Is the purpose to damage, or enhance? Done illegally on someone else's property without permission, or done with permission?

Graffiti is often associated with street gangs, who can use it to mark territory or to serve as an indicator of gang-related activities.

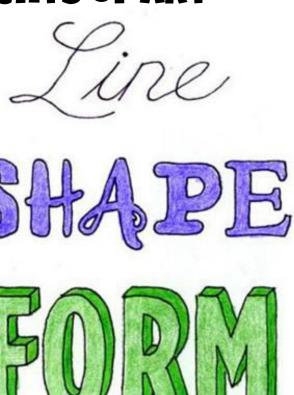
But in recent years, it has become a rapidly developing art form.

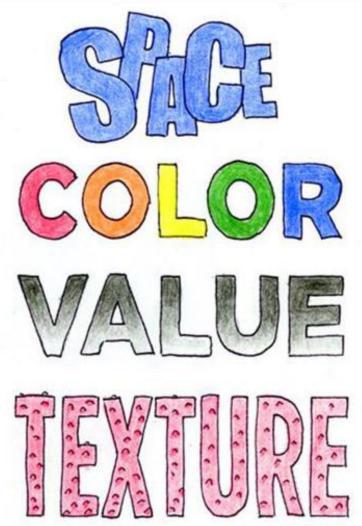
## GRAFFITI HAS RHYTHM

The words used in Graffiti are often illegible, but carry with them movement. The sharp diagonals and stylistic forms give life to **rhythm** and **movement**!



## GRAFFITI USES ALL OF THE ELEMENTS OF ART





if you stylperation is

4 Styles: Solid, Broken, Implied and Psychological



4 Styles: Solid, Broken, Implied and Psychological

#### Shape

Bold, energetic. Organic and geometric.



4 Styles: Solid, Broken, Implied and Psychological

#### Shape

Bold, energetic. Organic and geometric.

#### **Form**

The illusion of 3D letters.



4 Styles: Solid, Broken, Implied and Psychological

#### Shape

Bold, energetic. Organic and geometric.

#### **Form**

The illusion of 3D letters.

#### **Space**

Overlapping and shadows to create depth.



4 Styles: Solid, Broken, Implied and Psychological

#### **Shape**

Bold, energetic. Organic and geometric.

#### **Form**

The illusion of 3D letters.

#### **Space**

Overlapping and shadows to create depth.

#### Color

Loud and bold, contrasting. Color relationships.



4 Styles: Solid, Broken, Implied and Psychological

#### **Shape**

Bold, energetic. Organic and geometric.

#### **Form**

The illusion of 3D letters.

#### **Space**

Overlapping and shadows to create depth.

#### Color

Loud and bold, contrasting. Color relationships.

#### **Value**

Dark to light and shadows.



4 Styles: Solid, Broken, Implied and Psychological

#### **Shape**

Bold, energetic. Organic and geometric.

#### **Form**

The illusion of 3D letters.

#### **Space**

Overlapping and shadows to create depth.

#### Color

Loud and bold, contrasting. Color relationships.

#### **Value**

Dark to light and shadows.

#### **Texture**

Patterns, designs.
Creating illusions of texture.



# FIND SOME GRAFFITI!

Using Google, find **three images of graffiti** and submit them into the Google Classroom assignment.

Choose your favorite, and **answer the questions** based on your choice.

When everyone is done, we are going to share our choices!

Hint: Don't choose the first few images on Google or yours will be the same as everyone else.

There is some **really cool** graffiti online!

### Answer these questions about your favorite piece:

- 1. What drew you to this image? Which aspects appeal to you? Explain.
- 1. Do you think the artist intended to make something beautiful, or to destroy the property? Explain.
- 1. Does the image use any of the Elements of Art or techniques we have used so far this year? Which ones? (The Elements of Art are Line, Shape, Form, Value, Space, Color, Texture).
- 1. What else do you notice about the image? What makes it stand out from the other graffiti?



# MARK TERRITORY

- Sometimes gang-related
- Without permission
- Not usually creative or beautiful
- Meant to destroy







# MAKE A STATEMENT







### Sometimes graffiti even interacts with the space around it





Banksy

### Graffiti Art has passed on into other areas of pop culture, it has become an art style.











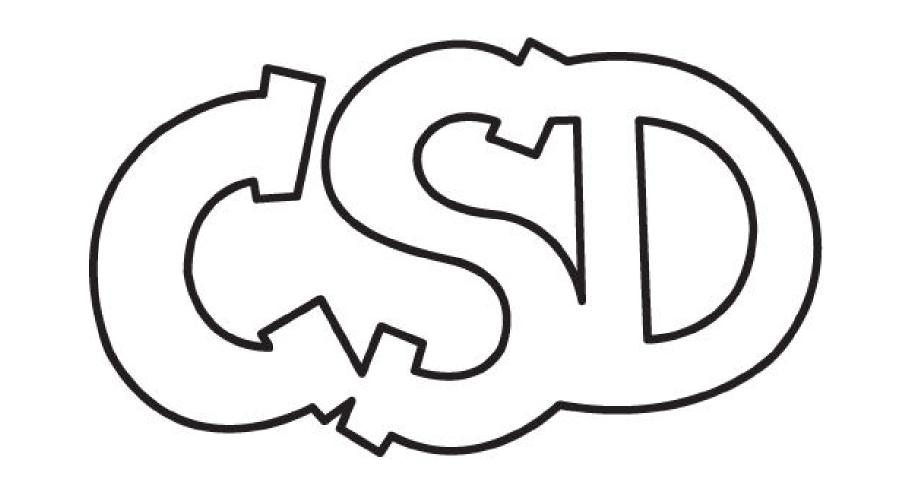


# Let's TRY IT!

Tools: Paper and pencil

Marker

Choose 3 letters







### See if you can try:

- Different types of shading
- Different textures
- Different outlines
- Different backgrounds
- Different designs inside and outside
- Adding extra elements

















### Lettering

- Bold/thick
- Often overlaps/crosses over
- "Fun"









#### **Shadows**

- Sometimes made to look 3D, other times used as cast shadows.
- Solid
- Crosshatched
- Shaded/Highlighted







#### **Behind the letters**

- Splashes
- Glow
- Drips
- Outlines
- Movement lines







### Adding accents or patterns inside the letters













### **Color transitions**

- Light to dark vs changing color.
- Two color vs three or four
- Complimentary or contrasting colors





- Bricks
- Full backgrounds
- Some focus less on the words and more on the backgrounds

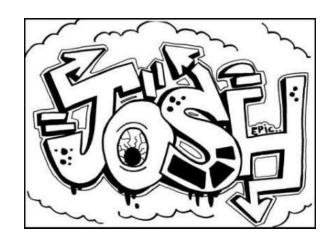














- Accents
- Objects
- Sometimes images inside the holes of the letters





# WHAT ARE SOME POSITIVE WAYS TO USE GRAFFITI?





















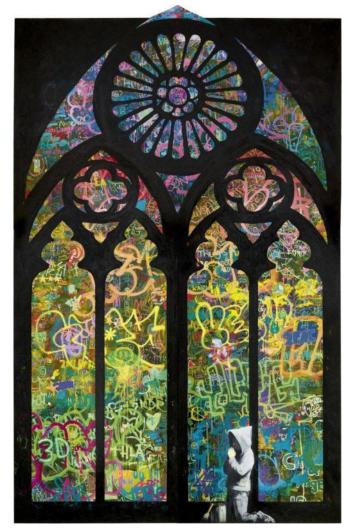
World's Top 20 Graffiti Artists



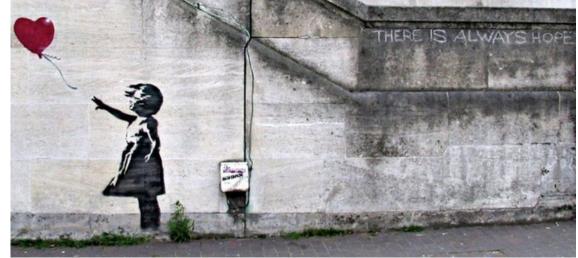
### Trompe l'oeil

French for "Trick the eye"

A painting or design intended to create the **illusion** of a **three-dimensional object**.

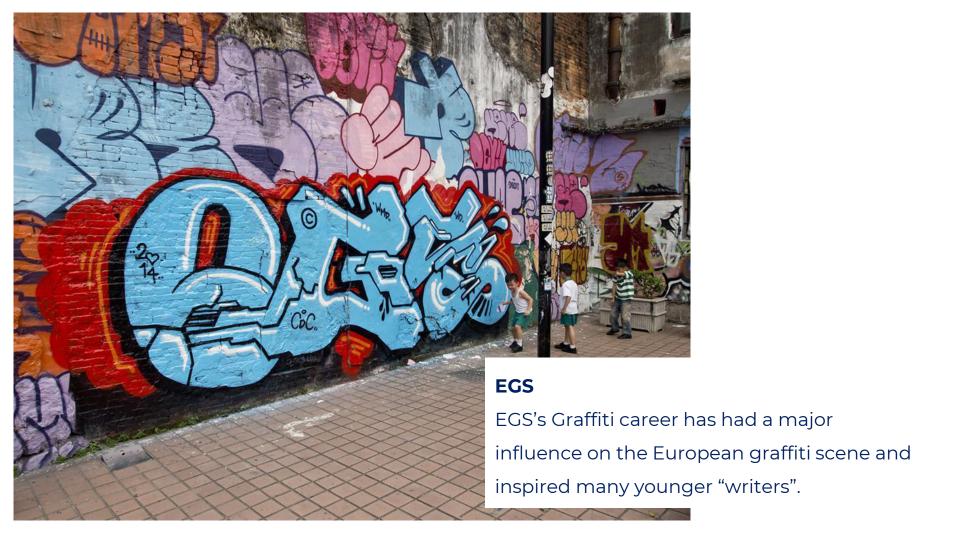


## Some graffiti artists are well known, respected and some even do graffiti as a career!



**Banksy** is a graffiti artist whose often-political work is world renowned, well-respected and his art has sold for millions. But no one knows his name or who he really is!

Forgive Us Our Trespassing sold at an auction for \$8.4 million!





#### Katsu

Katsu has also adapted his graffiti for the digital age. He developed a mobile app, created **remote control graffiti drones** and has photoshopped his graffiti art on the White House. Katsu's work has criticized the way the internet is taking away privacy in exchange for profit.







Yes, a <u>Graffiti Drone!</u>





#### Revok

Revok has tagged Los Angeles since the 90s, he became an enemy of the city's Sheriff's Department. He was **arrested** in 2011 and assigned the highest bail for vandalism in history at \$320,000.

He was sentenced to six months in prison, and yet he continues to create his artwork and now exhibits legally in galleries.

That's passion!



Taking advantage of public perceptions of graffiti, **Stephen ESPO Powers** often blurred the lines between illegal and legal, by painting either legitimate-looking advertisements or by painting abandoned shop fronts in **broad daylight.** 







#### Horfe

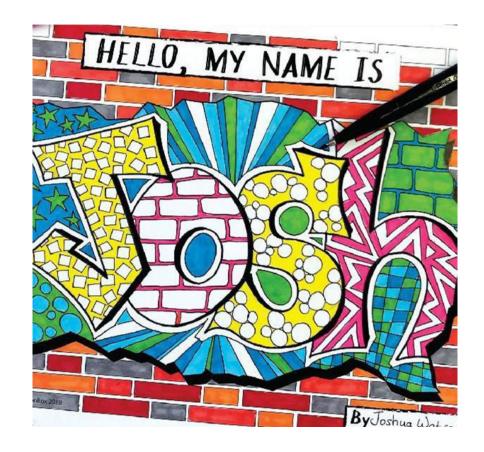
"With a unique style that's reminiscent of early cartoons and his relentless dedication to painting the streets of Paris, Horfe has received recognition from writers and the art community alike. In recent years he has ventured into different mediums including tattoos, acrylics and animation."





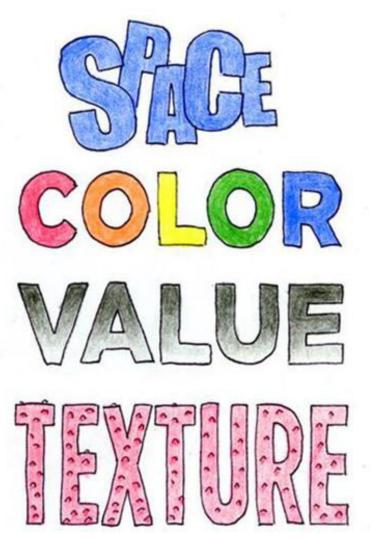








ELEMENTS OF ART



# WHAT ARE SOME POSITIVE WAYS TO USE GRAFFITI?















By Francisco Reyes



By Kraser Oner

Rake43

### WELL DONE GRAFFITI UTILIZES

## THE ELEMENTS AND PRINCIPLES OF ART

**Line:** All four styles of line are used to make graffiti (solid, broken, implied, psychological)

**Shape:** The lettering is made of shapes that are bold, energetic

Form: Perspective lines are used to create a three-dimensional effect or create shadows.

**Space:** Shadows and overlapping objects create dimension.

Color: The colors are often loud but work well together to create a pleasing combination.

Value: Most often there are color transitions within a letter, dark to light

Parts of the lettering and the sides have shadows to give it a three-dimensional look

**Texture: Patterns,**