



KS3 Year 8 Art Knowledge Organiser – Cultural Masks

Papier Mâché

Papier mâché means literally “chewed paper”. It is a composite material consisting of paper pieces or pulp bound with an adhesive.

Despite the French sounding name, papier mâché was not made in France until the mid-17th century. Papier mâché actually originates from China; the inventors of paper itself.

A mask is an object normally worn on the face, typically for protection, disguise, performance, or entertainment.

Masks usually have a spiritual and religious meaning and they are used in ritual dances and social and religious events, and a special status is attributed to the artists that create masks and to those that wear them in ceremonies.



FORM

The term form is used to describe any **three-dimensional** work. Three-dimensional forms can be geometric or organic. They also have volume (the amount of space occupied by the form) and mass (the impression that the volume is solid and occupies space). The surface of the form can be described in terms of its texture.

FUN FACTS

In Mexican culture, the colours on masks had special meanings related to specific characters and themes.



Red masks represented anger and strength. It also symbolized excitement.



Blue masks symbolized water and rain. Also, represented good nature and innocence.



Yellow masks conveyed power and happiness.



Green masks symbolized happiness and the harvest.

Notice how the masks have multiple colours. This means that masks often had more than one meaning.

Keywords / Formal Elements:

Tone	How dark or light a shape is.
Line	A mark made by a pointed tool such as a brush, pen or pencil; to define/form a shape.
Texture	Describes the feel of an actual surface. The surface quality of an object; can be real or implied.
Colour	It is created by light. There are three properties of colour; Hue (name), Value (shades and tints), and Intensity (brightness).
Form	Objects that are three-dimensional having length, width and height. They can be viewed from many sides. Form takes up space and volume.
Cultural	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a society.
Initial Ideas	Helping you have a clear idea about what you want to produce.
Control	How carefully you work with a specific media.

CEREMONY
CELEBRATION
DISGUISE **RITUAL**
FESTIVAL
PARTY **CULTURAL**
FORM **TRADITION**
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