

School Name _____ **Student Name** _____

Teacher Name _____ Date ___/___/20___ Per. ____

Color Schemes

Fill in the blanks with the following words to identify color schemes:

Analogous

Monochromatic

Triad

Complementary

Neutral

Warm

Cool

Split Complement

Color schemes are often used to unify artworks. Some of the most common schemes, or plans, for using color are noted below. These plans are based on impressions you have when you see different colors.

1. _____ Reds, oranges, and yellows remind you of warm things and feelings, such as fire, sun, or people with “sunny” personalities.
2. _____ Blues, greens, and violets remind you of cool things such as water or moods of people, such as “feeling blue.”
3. _____ True neutrals are grays, black and white. Artists, designers, and architects often refer to varieties of brown as neutral colors.. Neutral colors can be slightly warm – rust, reddish, gray, tan. These colors are often used to suggest the idea of warm earthy nature. Neutral colors can also be slightly cool – brownish violet, greenish grey, light blue-gray. These colors may remind you of very business-like, industrial or “cool” impersonal things. When neutral colors of about the same value are the main ones in a work, it usually has a quiet, somber, reserved quality. Any bright colors will tend to stand out as accents or centers of interest, focal points.

4. _____ These color schemes are based on several values of one hue. Monochrome means “one color.” This kind of plan unifies a work, but it can also be boring. Artists and designers often use color accents or related hues to add visual interest.
5. _____ In this plan, colors have a common hue. A combination of blue, blue-green, and violet is an example. Analogous hues are next to each other on the color wheel. They are usually pleasing to look at. You tend to see them as related or part of a unit.
6. _____ These hues are opposite each other on the color wheel. Intense pairs of complements tend to attract your attention. Complements tend to “sing” or “shout.” They are often used for signs and other commercial designs to attract attention. They can also be the source of strong after-images. An after-image occurs when you stare at color for thirty seconds or so and then close your eyes or look at white paper. You will see an after-image of opposite or complementary colors. The eye seems to create these sensations as a way to rest.
7. _____ This scheme is often more interesting than simple complements. A split complement includes one hue and the two hues on each side of its complement. An example would be yellow contrasted with red-violet and blue-violet.
8. _____ An other color scheme is based on any three colors equally spaced apart on the color wheel. Examples are the primary colors (red, yellow, blue) or other sets of three colors, such as yellow-orange, red-violet, and blue-green. Intense triads like intense complements, seem to attract attention, especially if one hue is stronger than the others. For quieter effects, artists may use a triad with neutral colors or change the intensity or value of colors in the triad.