Effects of Color Assignment Sheet

Directions: Before you begin to color in your collage, consider the role of color in how you want your viewer to read your piece. Below are some brief points to consider about color theory. Based upon these points, consider which colors best express your intended message.

Using Color

- **Warm colors** (reds, yellows, bright yellow-greens, and oranges) evoke warm images like the sun, love, relationships; these colors move toward a viewer's eye

- **Cool colors** (blue, green, and violet) remind viewers of cool images like ice, grass, winter, and ponds; these colors move objects in an image back and away

- **Complementary colors** are opposite each other on the color wheel. These colors contrast the most and create excitement when placed side by side; they enhance or complement each other—red looks redder next to green, and green looks greener next to red—and are visually appealing and harmonious

Note that blending colors can create subtle differences in how a viewer reads an image. Viewers interpret red differently than crimson, light pink, or dark pink. These colors share similar qualities but encourage different meanings
Building Your Visual Composition

1. What is the general overall feeling you wish to evoke in a viewer? Jot down the colors that will help you do this.

2. Referring to the notes you just took, use crayons, colored markers, or colored pencils to color in your photocopied images; then arrange the images in a way that appeals to you.

3. Arrange the various images in different ways. What is the effect when, for example, an image colored red is placed next to an image colored yellow? Move the images around. What subtle differences do you notice? With this in mind, continue to arrange your images to create the effect you desire.

4. Jot down a few words that might describe your composition (e.g., attitude, power, happy, content, distant, angry).

5. How would you like your peer to interpret this composition?
Peer Review
Examine your partner’s arrangement of colors. Offer your immediate interpretation of this composition. Do you think that it is a warm and happy composition? If so, what makes you say this? Is the composition more distant and cold? If so, what makes you say this? Write your response below.

Revising
6. Look at the comments above and rearrange your images if necessary to better fit your intentions. Once you are satisfied with the arrangement, flip the papers over and tape them together from behind.
7. Return to your list of words that you jotted down on the previous page, and add any other words that represent your work.

Writing an Artist’s Statement
Since artworks often are read by viewers without the artist present, artists often write statements to describe their artistic choices (e.g., use of color, shapes, objects) and their intended message. Writing a short artist's statement about your visual composition will introduce and communicate your ideas to your viewers.

Here is a sample artist's statement:

This image has a lot to do with how sports companies lead young kids into believing that if they buy their equipment, they can have a successful career in sports. I chose to use contrasting colors to set up the tension of what the company intends to say to the buyer, with a more realistic vision of hard work and commitment. I used these colors to express attitude, defiance, and self-power.

8. Return to your list of words that you jotted down to describe your visual composition. Use these words to write down in a sentence or two the intention behind the choices that you made.