

Design Aptitude – NET Guidelines

The following categories of art and design themes will be evaluated on the design aptitude section in the NET:

A. Design Fundamentals & Theory:

1. Elements and Principles of Design
2. Gestalt Principles
3. Fundamental knowledge of ratio and proportioning systems
4. Fluency in use of design vocabulary
5. Perception of color and basic understanding of color theory
6. Design as perceived in the natural world (*i.e., patterns in nature*)
7. Analysis of visual compositions against principles of design

B. Visual Arts & Techniques:

1. Basic drawing and painting techniques
2. Understanding of shapes and geometry
3. Understanding of the human body as a subject in art
4. Basic knowledge of form-making techniques (*i.e., subtraction, addition, modelling, casting, etc.*)
5. Basic knowledge of material properties and material handling (*i.e., clay, wood, plaster, paper*)

C. Design History & Context:

1. Familiarity with notable/iconic artists/designers and their works
2. Familiarity with post-industrial design movements (*i.e., art deco, arts and crafts, Bauhaus, minimalism, modernism, postmodernism*)
3. Knowledge of local crafts and techniques
4. Islamic Art & Architecture
5. Man & Environment

D. Problem-Solving & Visual Communication:

1. Non-verbal reasoning: Problem-solving through diagrams and pictures that offer visual cues
2. Fundamental knowledge of design communication (*i.e., symbols and signage*)

E. Contemporary & Emerging Practices:

1. Familiarity with the practice of art, studio culture, and the design process
2. Familiarity with renowned local artists, architects and designers.
3. Emerging materials, tools, and technologies



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