

# ART & DESIGN



## PUPIL TASK SHEET

1

### BEFORE YOUR VISIT

Madame Tussauds London need your help! We need a new designer to join our team, follow the tasks below to practise your skills and it could be you...

#### Activity 1

The figures that you see in Madame Tussauds are known as 'wax figures' or 'portraits' because they are an exact likeness of a famous person. Their face, height, body-shape, and even their hair are all copied exactly as they are in person\*.

A self-portrait is when an artist attempts to create an artistic likeness of themselves. A portrait can tell you many things about a person and the time they lived in. It can also show you what fashions were like, how people lived and important events that happened. Answer the questions below to start thinking about the elements that make up a portrait.



a) Describe your classmate's face.

What colour eyes do they have?

.....

What shape are their eyes?

.....

What is their hair like?

.....

How would you describe their style?

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What are their teeth like?

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What is their skin tone?

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What is the shape of their mouth like?

.....

What is their expression?

.....





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## PUPIL TASK SHEET



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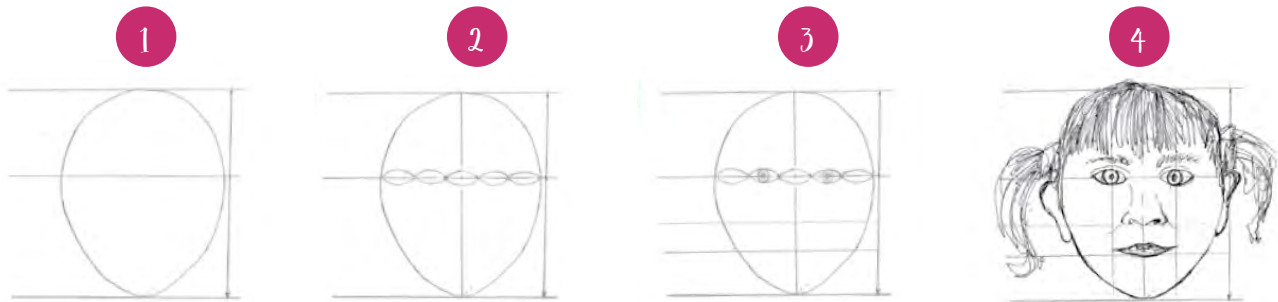
- b) Practise pulling a happy and sad face. What else do you notice? How does your face change with your expressions? What happens to each of your features as you change from a happy to a sad face:

	Happy face	Sad face
Eyes		
Mouth		
Nose		

### Activity 2

Now it's your turn to try a self-portrait! Madame Tussauds spends a great deal of time\* making sure the likeness of the figures and exhibits are true to real life. (Use a separate piece of paper to complete this activity).

- a) Use a mirror to help you draw your own self-portrait. Follow these instructions and remember to keep looking in the mirror to help you.
1. Draw a horizontal line to show the level of your eyes.
  2. Draw a vertical line of symmetry. Draw 5 ovals across the eye lines.
  3. Draw a second line to mark the bottom of your nose.
  4. Draw a third line to show where your mouth appears.



- b) Once you have finished, look at your picture. Does it look like you? If not, why not?
- c) Swap portraits with the person sitting next to you. Does this portrait look like them? If not, why not? Which features do you think they could improve?



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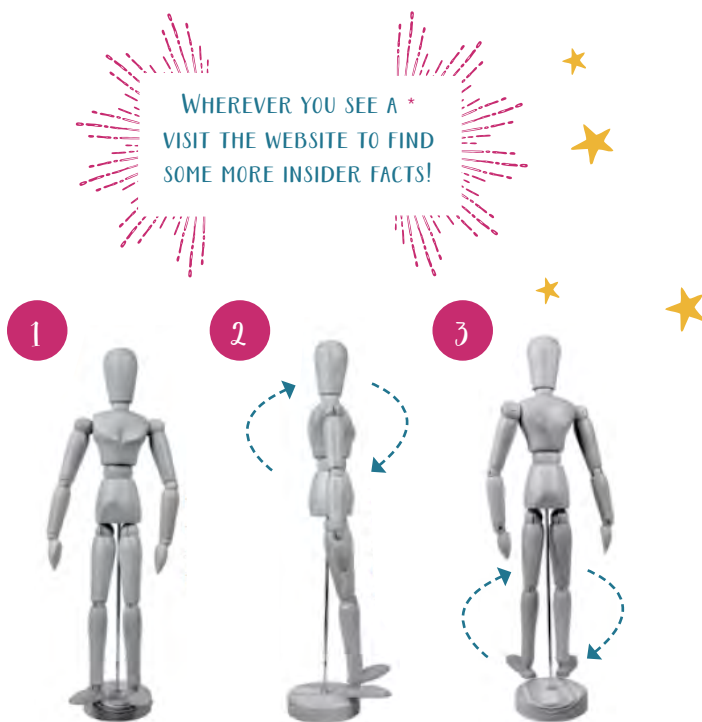


## BEFORE YOUR VISIT

### Activity 3

Visitors at Madame Tussauds are allowed to walk around their favourite famous figure, so it's important for us to create a true likeness from all angles. The steps below will help you practise this skill:

1. Find a 3D object (if you have a wooden mannequin use this!) Using your 3D object, sketch the object from the front.
2. Now move your object. Sketch how it looks from a sideways angle.
3. Move the object to a reverse/backward facing position. Sketch how it looks from behind.
4. Finally, move the object into some different positions and sketch them too. Keep a portfolio of your sketches.



### Activity 4

At Madame Tussauds we use wax\* for our figures because it helps us to create the best likeness of the famous people featured. Other materials can also be used in sculpture – wood, plastic, clay, metal and even ice!

- a) Match the following materials with the word you feel best describes its properties:

Glass	Strong
Metal	Absorbent
Clay	Transparent
Sponge	Mouldable

*Note: A dashed line connects 'Glass' to 'Transparent' and 'Sponge' to 'Absorbent'.*

- b) Sculptures can also be made from other materials such as concrete. Find the names of other materials that might be used to make models. Include words to describe the properties of these materials.

Materials	Properties



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## PUPIL TASK SHEET



### DURING YOUR VISIT

#### Activity 1

Upon meeting the figure of Marie Tussaud herself, find out more about her and why sculpture and self-portrait have been so important to the attraction since the day it began.

a) In which section did you find Marie Tussaud?

.....

b) How did she begin her business?

.....

.....

c) In what year did she live? What important events happened during her lifetime?

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d) Note down any other facts about her life and objects that relate to her job.\*

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#### Activity 2

Many famous artists have created self-portraits. You can meet some of these artists on your journey around Madame Tussauds.

a) Make a list of the famous artists you have found and something interesting about their appearance, for example what colour is their hair? Are they smiling? You will need these when you are back in class:



Artist	Something interesting



# ART & DESIGN

## PUPIL TASK SHEET

5

DURING YOUR VISIT

### Activity 3

Now take a look at **Behind the Scenes** at Madame Tussauds and find out how the figures are actually made.

a) Fill in the gaps to complete the diagram.





## Activity 4

Put your 3D drawing skills to the test and practise what you learned in class. First choose a figure you would like to draw.

a) All the figures at the attraction will be posing in a specific way, so don't forget to follow these steps and capture what they look like:

1. Start by sketching the pose from the front
2. Now create a sketch of the same pose from the side
3. Now draw a sketch from behind
4. Add the necessary details to your sketch to make sure your famous figure is recognisable







# ART & DESIGN

## PUPIL TASK SHEET



DURING YOUR VISIT

### Activity 5

To sculpt a figure like those at Madame Tussauds, it's important to practise recording your observations of people's features. It may be useful to get up close to your chosen character or famous figure.

#### HINT:

MAKE A NOTE OF EVEN  
THE SMALLEST DETAILS!

a) What colour is their hair?

.....

.....

.....



b) Are they wearing jewellery?

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.....

.....



c) How long is their hair?

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.....

d) What colour are their eyes?

.....

.....

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## AFTER YOUR VISIT

### Activity 1

Time for some research! Select one of the artists you saw at Madame Tussauds and investigate their work.

a) Did they do any self-portraits? What name did they give to them?

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b) Find some examples of their different styles of portraits.

c) How do they make themselves appear in their self-portraits compared with how they look at Madame Tussauds?

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d) How would you change your self-portrait to look like it had been created by the artist you have chosen?

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### Activity 2

Find sculptures in your own home or local area, or find pictures of sculptures in magazines, books or on the internet.

a) Cut out or sketch the sculptures that you found and record the name of the sculptor.

b) Investigate which materials the sculptor has used.







# ART & DESIGN

## PUPIL TASK SHEET

9

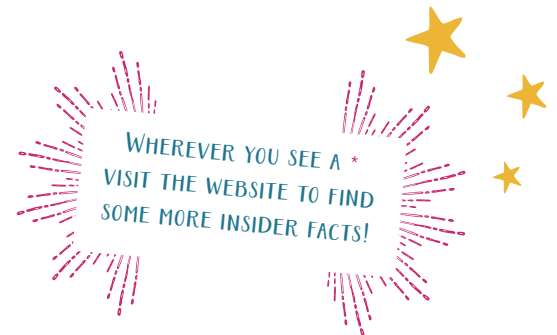
AFTER YOUR VISIT

### Activity 3

On your visit you should have noticed that Marie Tussaud started her career by making wax masks of important people of the time.\*

a) Using your self-portrait from the previous activity, follow the instructions to create your own mask.

1. Carefully cut out your self-portrait.
2. Stick your picture to a piece of card and cut around the outside.
3. Now cut out holes for the eyes and mouth. Ask your teacher to help you.
4. Now you can decorate your mask with paints, or props including different coloured wool to act as hair!
5. To make a handle for your mask, tape a wooden lolly stick or a thick piece of card to the base.



b) Create a 3D sculpture from your portfolio of sketches. Think about which material would be best to use.

1. Use tools to create the texture and patterns you need by digging into the smooth surface.
2. If you are sculpting with clay or playdough, use your fingers to smooth over the joins.
3. If you are using playdough, you can experiment with different colours to create a marbled effect, or even to create new colours.
4. When your sculpture is complete and you are happy with its likeness to your 3D sketches, leave it to dry.

### HINT:

YOU WILL NEED A PLIABLE MATERIAL (SUCH AS PLAYDOUGH OR CLAY). THESE MATERIALS ARE EASIER TO MOULD INTO SHAPE. YOU COULD ALSO USE MODROC OR PAPIER MÂCHÉ. CONSIDER THE TEXTURE OF THE ITEM. SHOULD THE SURFACE OF YOUR SCULPTURE BE SMOOTH OR ROUGH?

