

Name _____

Period _____

Miss Buhl Graphic Design

The Black Square Problem:

Use four black squares to create sketches that express the meaning of the six words below.

ORDER INCREASE BOLD CONGESTED TENSION PLAYFUL

You will make at least 8 sketches for each word. Select the most effective solution for each one. When the assignment is complete, you should have a total of 48 sketches and a written reflection. Remember, it's usually not our first idea that is the most successful. Don't always look for the obvious solution to the problem. You will find that for some of these words many of you will come up with outcomes that are very similar to your classmates, but here's an important fact to keep in mind: The potential number of successful solutions are infinite!

Here are some important rules to keep in mind when working with these squares:

1. The squares can vary in size
2. The squares are solid black, but when they overlap each other you may distinguish this by using white space or lines... or they can overlap with no visible separation
3. Think of where your squares are in relation to the page (composition)
4. The squares can touch creating a larger shape that may lose the form of a square
5. Be sure to try overlapping for some of these problems
6. Contrast in size, position, direction, and space will drastically affect the meaning of your design
7. Be aware of the relationship between positive (the black squares) and negative (the blank) space

ORDER

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