FREE TEACHING RESOURCE / 6–8 / 06

Portrait Through Objects: Many Stories

STUDENT STUDIO BRIEF • your idea, your decisions

Name: _____ Class: _____

Your challenge

Tell a person's story without showing a face. Choose symbols that are specific, consented to, and genuinely revealing rather than assumed.

Big question: How can a portrait communicate identity without assuming a face tells the whole story?

What a strong artwork will show

- At least five carefully chosen visual clues.
- Intentional arrangement and visible focal point.
- Three alternative layouts or arrangements.
- Peer interpretation tested against the maker's intent.
- One revision reducing ambiguity or stereotype.

My investigation

What do I notice in my references or in the world around me?

Whose experience or viewpoint does this idea reflect?

What do I still need to learn, verify or ask permission to use?

Generate before you decide

Try 3 different possibilities. Each should change the subject, arrangement, medium, viewpoint or message.

IDEA 1	IDEA 2	IDEA 3

My plan

My audience is _____ . My most important visual choice is _____ .

I chose idea # ____ because:

Critique → revision

A peer noticed:

The change I made was:

Reflect with evidence

What do you want the viewer to notice first?

What changed between your first plan and final work?

Which part would you improve next, and how would you know it worked?

My next studio goal: I will improve _____ by _____. I will know when _____ is visible.