**🎨 1: Project Overview – *Under the Sea***

**Theme Focus:**  
Explore the mysterious, vibrant, and diverse world beneath the ocean's surface. This theme can include marine life, underwater landscapes, environmental issues, mythology, and abstract interpretations.

**Key Concepts to Explore:**

* Texture and movement in water
* Light and shadow underwater
* Marine biodiversity (fish, coral, jellyfish, etc.)
* Pollution and conservation
* Symbolism and fantasy (e.g., mermaids, shipwrecks)

**Suggested Media:**

* Watercolour and ink
* Acrylic and mixed media
* Collage and digital art
* Sculpture (clay, wire, recycled materials)

**🧑‍🎨 Page 2: Artist Inspiration**

**1. Ernst Haeckel**

* Known for: Detailed biological illustrations of sea creatures
* Use: Inspiration for intricate line work and symmetry

**2. Zaria Forman**

* Known for: Large-scale pastel drawings of oceans and ice
* Use: Techniques for blending and capturing movement

**3. Jason deCaires Taylor**

* Known for: Underwater sculptures that promote coral growth
* Use: Ideas for 3D work and environmental themes

**4. David Doubilet**

* Known for: Underwater photography
* Use: Composition, light, and realism in underwater scenes

**Task:**  
Choose one artist and create a study page with:

* A brief biography
* Analysis of one artwork
* Your own response piece inspired by their style

**🖌️ Page 3: Techniques & Materials**

**Water Techniques:**

* *Wet-on-wet watercolour*: For fluid, dreamy effects
* *Salt texture*: Sprinkle salt on wet paint to mimic coral or sand
* *Ink and bleach*: Create dramatic contrasts and textures

**Mixed Media Ideas:**

* Layer tissue paper for translucent effects
* Use string, netting, or bubble wrap for texture
* Incorporate recycled materials to reflect environmental themes

**Sketchbook Tips:**

* Annotate your experiments
* Include photos of your process
* Reflect on what worked and what didn’t

**📚 Page 4: Developing Your Project**

**Structure Your Work:**

1. **Mind Map** – Explore ideas around “Under the Sea”
2. **Mood Board** – Collect images, textures, and colour palettes
3. **Artist Research** – Study at least 2 relevant artists
4. **Media Experiments** – Try different techniques
5. **Observational Drawing** – From photos or real objects
6. **Idea Development** – Sketch and refine your final piece
7. **Final Outcome** – A resolved artwork showing your journey

**Assessment Criteria:**

* **AO1**: Develop ideas through artist research
* **AO2**: Experiment with materials and techniques
* **AO3**: Record observations and insights
* **AO4**: Present a personal and meaningful final piece

**🧠 Page 5: Creative Prompts & Reflection**

**Creative Prompts:**

* What would a coral reef look like in 100 years?
* Imagine a mythical underwater city
* Depict the impact of plastic pollution on marine life
* Create a piece from the perspective of a sea creature

**Reflection Questions:**

* What message do you want your artwork to convey?
* How have your chosen materials helped express your theme?
* What challenges did you face and how did you overcome them?

**🗂️6. Presentation Tips – Showcasing Your Work**

**Why Presentation Matters:**  
A well-presented sketchbook and final piece show pride in your work, help tell the story of your project, and make it easier for examiners to follow your creative journey.

**✏️ Sketchbook Presentation**

**1. Layout & Flow**

* Arrange pages in a logical order: *Mind map → Research → Experiments → Development → Final piece.*
* Use arrows, labels, or numbering to guide the viewer through your process.

**2. Annotation Tips**

* Write clearly and concisely.
* Use bullet points or short paragraphs.
* Reflect on:
  + What you did
  + Why you did it
  + What you learned
  + What you would improve

**3. Visual Balance**

* Avoid overcrowding pages—leave space around images.
* Use borders, washi tape, or coloured paper to frame key pieces.
* Mix full-page artworks with smaller studies and notes.

**4. Consistency**

* Use a consistent font style (handwritten or printed).
* Stick to a colour scheme or theme that matches your project.

**🖼️ Final Piece Presentation**

**1. Mounting & Framing**

* Mount your final piece on clean, neutral-coloured card.
* Trim edges neatly and avoid smudges or glue marks.

**2. Title & Statement**

* Give your piece a title that reflects your theme.
* Include a short artist statement (3–5 sentences) explaining:
  + Your concept
  + Materials used
  + Influences
  + What you’re proud of

**✅ Final Checklist**

*  All work is clearly labelled and dated
*  Artist research includes analysis and responses
*  Experiments are annotated and evaluated
*  Final piece is mounted and titled
*  Sketchbook tells a clear, creative story

**🌞: Summer Tasks – Starting Your Personal Project**

**🎯 What is the Personal Project?**

Your **Personal Project** is your chance to choose a theme that excites you and develop it into a full creative journey. You’ll be assessed on how well you:

* Develop ideas (AO1)
* Experiment with materials (AO2)
* Record your process (AO3)
* Create a final outcome (AO4)

**🧠 Step 1: Choose a Theme**

Pick something **personal, meaningful, or visually rich**. Here are some ideas:

| **Theme Ideas** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| **Identity** | Explore your culture, personality, or memories |
| **Decay & Time** | Rust, aging, abandoned places |
| **Dreams & Imagination** | Surrealism, fantasy, or dreamscapes |
| **Urban Life** | Cityscapes, graffiti, people in motion |
| **Nature & Growth** | Plants, seasons, natural textures |
| **Conflict & Contrast** | Light vs dark, peace vs chaos, old vs new |

**📸 Step 2: Start Collecting Visuals**

**Create a Summer Visual Diary**:

* Take **photos** of anything that fits your theme
* Collect **magazine clippings**, textures, or found objects
* Make **quick sketches** of scenes, people, or objects
* Use apps like Pinterest or Canva to make a digital mood board

**🎨 Step 3: Experiment at Home**

Try at least **3 different materials or techniques**:

* Watercolour, ink, or coffee painting
* Collage using recycled materials
* Charcoal or pencil tonal studies
* Digital drawing apps (e.g., Procreate, IbisPaint)
* Photography edits using filters or overlays

**✍️ Step 4: Reflect & Record**

In a sketchbook or notebook:

* Write about **why you chose your theme**
* Reflect on your photos or sketches: *What do they show? What do they mean to you?*
* Note any **artists or styles** you’re drawn to

**📅 Optional Weekly Plan**

| **Week** | **Task** |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Choose your theme and make a mind map |
| 2 | Take 10+ photos related to your theme |
| 3 | Create a mood board (digital or physical) |
| 4 | Try 2 different materials or techniques |
| 5 | Research 1 artist who links to your theme |
| 6 | Make 2 observational drawings |
| 7 | Reflect on your progress and ideas |
| 8 | Plan 2 ideas for a final piece (sketches) |