

Brief History of Art and design

20th-21st century

01 BAUHAUS

(1919–1960)

WRITING

for English lesson

BAUHAUS



Co-funded by
the European Union



LIEPĀJAS MŪZIKAS,
MĀKSLAS un DIZAINA
VIDUSSKOLA



SUPŠ:UH



Materials created within Erasmus+ Small-scale partnership project "EmpowerED: Fostering Employability, Cultural Understanding, and Digital Resilience in VET Education" No 2023-2-LV01-KA210-VET-000178458 Implemented from 1.04.2024. till 31.03.2026. by coordinator MIKC "Liepājas Mūzikas, mākslas un dizaina vidusskola" (Latvia) and project partner Střední umělecko průmyslová škola Uherské Hradiště (Czech Republic), total project budget is 60 000 euro.

WRITING

1. OPINION ESSAY – THE INFLUENCE OF BAUHAUS

Task: Write a 250-word essay discussing how Bauhaus has influenced modern design. Consider fields like architecture, furniture, graphic design, and technology. Provide examples and your personal opinion on its relevance today.

Guiding questions:

- What were the main principles of Bauhaus?
- Where can we see its influence in modern design?
- Do you think Bauhaus is still relevant today? Why or why not?

2. DESCRIPTIVE WRITING – A BAUHAUS-INSPIRED ROOM

Task: Imagine you are an interior designer, and you have been asked to create a Bauhaus-inspired living space. Write a 200-word description of the room, including its colours, materials, furniture, and lighting.

Useful vocabulary: geometric shapes, functional, minimalist, primary colours, open space, natural light, industrial materials

Example prompt:

„Describe a modern apartment that follows Bauhaus design principles. What furniture would you include? What colours and materials would you use? How would the space feel to someone living there?“

3. COMPARE AND CONTRAST – BAUHAUS VS. ANOTHER DESIGN MOVEMENT

Task: Choose another design movement (e.g., Art Deco, Brutalism, Minimalism, Postmodernism) and write a 250-word comparison with Bauhaus. Discuss similarities and differences in philosophy, aesthetics, and impact.

Guiding questions:

- What are the main characteristics of each movement?
- How do they approach functionality and aesthetics?
- Which one do you prefer and why?

4. ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING – MASS PRODUCTION VS. CRAFTSMANSHIP

Task: Some critics argue that Bauhaus prioritized industrial production over artistic craftsmanship. Write a 300-word argumentative essay discussing whether mass production and craftsmanship can coexist in modern design. Use examples to support your opinion.

Structure:

- Introduction: Introduce the topic and state your opinion.
- Body Paragraph 1: Arguments for mass production (efficiency, affordability, accessibility).
- Body Paragraph 2: Arguments for craftsmanship (individuality, quality, uniqueness).
- Conclusion: Summarize and give your final opinion.

5. CREATIVE WRITING – A LETTER FROM A BAUHAUS DESIGNER

Task: Imagine you are a Bauhaus designer in the 1920s, writing a letter to a friend explaining your work, inspiration, and vision for the future of design. Write at least 200 words.

Example prompt:

„You are a student at the Bauhaus school in the 1920s. Write a letter to a friend describing your experience, what you are learning, and your hopes for the future of design. Use historical details to make it realistic.“