Visual Rhythm

• Visual Rhythm is a Principle of Art.
• Visual Rhythm is rhythm you receive through your eyes rather than your ears.
• Visual Rhythm is created by repeated positive shapes separated by negative spaces.
• Visual Rhythm is all around us.
FIVE TYPES OF RHYTHM

• Regular
• Alternating
• Random
• Flowing
• Progressive
Regular Rhythm

- Regular Rhythms and patterns have identical motifs or visual beats.
- They have an equal amount of space between motifs.
- Parking spaces are laid out in a regular rhythm.
- Bricks on a wall form a regular rhythm.
Alternating Rhythm

• Alternating rhythm and pattern can be achieved by changing motifs at regular intervals.

• Think of the black and white squares on a chess board.

• Here the elephants alternate color and direction.
Random Rhythm

- The motif is repeated in no apparent order.
- You can not predict exactly where the next motif will be.
- Splashes of paint on a wall would create a random rhythm.
- It would be difficult to predict where the next flower would be.
Flowing Rhythm

• Flowing rhythms are created by repeating wavy lines and curved shapes.
Progressive Rhythm

• In progressive rhythm there is a change in motif or visual beat each time it is repeated.
See if you can identify the type of visual rhythm.
Regular Rhythm

• The motif stays the same and the distance between the motifs stays consistant.
What type of rhythm do you see?
Flowing Rhythm

- The pattern is made up of curved motifs.
What type of rhythm do you see?
Regular Rhythm

• The motif of the brick and the interval of the mortar are consistent.
What type of rhythm do you see?
Random Rhythm

The spaces between the motifs are not easy to predict. The motif changes scale in no specific pattern.
What type of rhythm do you see?
Flowing Rhythm

• The tree branches are mostly curved and wavy.
What type of rhythm do you see in the buildings?
Progressive Rhythm

• Each building appears larger than the one next to it.
What type of rhythm do you see?
Sometimes it is not so clear cut.

- While at first glance it might appear to be an alternating rhythm it is actually a Progressive Rhythm.
- The motifs are constantly changing.
What type of rhythm do you see in this painting by Rene Magritte?
Regular Rhythm

• The floating English gentlemen are spaced very evenly.
• The windows on the buildings are equal size and spaced evenly.
What type of rhythm do you see?
Flowing Rythm
What type of rhythm do you see?
Alternating Rhythm

• Black and white squares are alternating in a predictable pattern.
Look around the room and see if you can find some visual rhythms.

- What type of rhythms do the desks create?
- What type of rhythm do the windows create?
- What type of rhythm do you see in the tile floor?
- What type of rhythm do you see in the drapes?
Create your own examples of the different types of visual rhythm.

- On the paper hand out draw three examples for each to the five types of visual rhythm.
  - REGULAR
  - ALTERNATING
  - RANDOM
  - FLOWING
  - PROGRESSIVE