

4. SENIOR FOUR

PUPPETRY:

A puppet is an object, often resembling a human, animal or mythical figure that is animated or manipulated by a person called a puppeteer. The puppeteer uses movements of their hands, arms or control devices such as rods or strings to move the body, head, limbs, and in some cases the mouth and eyes of the puppet.

Puppetry therefore is the art of making puppets. A person who operates puppet is called a puppeteer.

Puppets are used for entertainment, telling stories, decoration and cultural activities.

TYPES OF PUPPETS.

There are different form of puppets i.e. Marionette (string puppets), glove puppets and shadow puppets.

MARIONETTE.

A marionette is sometimes called a string puppet. It is a type of puppet moved or controlled by string attached to it.

Marionette can also be used as body toys / dolls for theatre entertainment and television programme.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS USED FOR MAKING MARIONETTE.

Just like glove puppets, materials and tools for making marionette are found in the environment. They include;

- Wires
- Wood / cardboard
- Coloured cloth
- Small nails
- Razor blades
- Pair of scissor for cutting the papers.
- Paints, strings etc.

The major tools used are painting brushes, hammer and nails. Wires

THE STEPS FOLLOWED WHEN MAKING MARIONETTE.

- Collect all the materials and tools necessary for making marionette like hard papers, strings and thin wires, etc.
- Draw the shape of the person on the hard paper.
- Cut out the different parts of the shape of the human being you have drawn like the arms, legs, heads, the chests and abdomen.
- Make holes on one end of the cut out parts using a small nail.
- Using strings or thin wires, join the parts in a way that they can be moved at the joints.
- Join all the parts to the shape of human being.
- Cut other coloured soft paper into the shape of the eye, nose and lips.
- Glue the cut parts on the lead of the puppet to make the human face.
- Tie separate strings on the legs and hands of the puppet and then tie to a piece of wood which you will use to give the puppet the movement you want.
- Marionette can be made beautiful by painting or colouring.

GLOVE PUPPETS:

This is a puppet which is won as a glove on someone's hand, body or animal shape Glove puppet fits someone's hand. It can be made out of paper bags or cloth and painted or coloured to look like a person or animal.

The common materials used for making glove puppets are;

- Papers
- Tennis balls
- Old stockings
- Threads
- Old clothes
- Wood
- Seeds
- Glue, etc
- The only tool used is the needle.

THE PROCEDURE OF MAKING GLOVE PUPPETS.

- Collect all the necessary materials and tools.
- Roll the old pieces of cloth together to make a ball.
- Push the ball into the old sock. Push up to the end to make the shape of the head.
- Tie a string where the ball stops to make the neck.
- Cut two pieces of cloth to make shapes of ears and glue them onto the head.
- Glue some seeds on the head to make eye and nose.
- Glue some white seeds like maize to make the teeth.
- Finally glue some seed pods to make lips.

Note:

Glove puppets can be decorated to make it look beautiful by painting, gluing, sewing coloured pieces of clothes.

SHADOW PUPPETS.

Shadow puppet is the type of puppet where the puppet and puppeteer are not seen. The shadow of the puppet is reflected on the wall or screen using a light source.

LEATHER WORK.

Leather crafting or simply leather craft is the practice of making leather into craft objects or work of art, using shaping techniques, coloring techniques or both.

Leather on the other hand is a material made from hides and skins of animals by removing flesh, hair and tanning to render it soft and flexible when dry.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS USED IN LEATHER WORK.

Leather crafting needs only two major materials i.e.

- Hides and skins and other materials include; threads, glue, dyes and stains, water.

However, there are very many tools used for different purposes in leather work which include;

- Ruler
- Work board
- Rotary punch
- Divider
- Wood stamp
- Knife
- Ruffling
- Raw hide mallet.
- Grooving and edging tools.
- Stitching tools.
- Thong.

LEATHER PROCESSING.

Leather processing is the art of changing skins and hides from its original raw material to leather.

Skinning; this is the removal of the outer protective covering of hides and skins.

This should be done carefully to avoid cutting through and making damages.

Washing; this is done to remove blood stains, dirt and other impurities.

Liming; this is the soaking of skins in lime to soften it and loosen the hair.

De- haring and flashing; this is the process of scrapping the hair off the skin and removal of unwanted flesh.

Cleaning bath; this is the stage where the skin is soaked in a solution of chemical to neutralize traces of lime and any other impurities.

Re – washing; this is the second washing for a thorough cleaning by use of fibrous brush that marks the end of cleaning process.

Cunning (tanning); this is the process of soaking hides and skins in a chemical substance called tannin or chromium in a large container for some time until the tanned material gained a stable state.

Drying and compressing; after cunning, the skin become spongy. During drying and compressing, it is aired in a drying room with free circulation of air and temperature. When it is partly dry, skin is passed through rollers to compress and give it firmness of texture.

Finishing; this is the process where leather is given an artificial grain. A cow hide may be given the grain of the reptile skin. Such leather is referred to as corrected grain leather.

Dyeing leather dyeing usually involves the use of spirit- or alcohol based dyes where alcohol quickly gets absorbed into moistened leather, carrying the pigment deep into the surface.

TECHNIQUES USED FOR DECORATION LEATHER.

There are several techniques used for decorating leather. These include;

Stippling; this is the technique of leather decoration where patterns are created by the use of small dots to placed in different parts using a single point tool.

Malting; this technique is similar to stippling but differs in that tools with different points are used to place the dots that form the pattern.

Leather stamping; involves the use of shaped implements (stamps) to create an imprint onto a leather surface, often by striking the stamps with a mallet.

Commercial stamps are available in various designs, typically geometric or representative of animals. Most stamping is performed on vegetable tanned leather that has been dampened with water, as the water makes the leather softer and able to be compressed by the design being pressed or stamped into it using a press. After the leather has been stamped, the design stays on the leather as it dries out, but it can fade if the leather becomes wet and it flexed. To make the impressions last longer, the leather is conditioned with oils and fats to make it waterproof and prevent the fibers from deforming.

Modeling; this is a decorative technique made by raising parts on the surface leather.

Embossing; this is a decorative technique made by raising parts of leather from underneath.

Tooling; this is a decorative technique made by pressing lines on the surface of leather.

TYPES OF LEATHER

1. Ordinary leather: This produced from pelt which has processed.
2. Suedes: Are very soft leathers with soft finishes. They are popular for shoes, garments, bags, and hats.
3. Embossed leather: These are decorated with raised designs and can have many different types of designs.
4. Patent leather: These have a glassy and highly finished surfaces .they are common for bags, shoes, and dressing accessories.
5. Imitation leather: This leather can be made to resemble the skins of snakes, crocodiles etc. they are sometimes called plastic leather.

THE USES OF LEATHER.

Leather crafting is used for making.

- Knife sheaths -craft sandals
- Belts -garments
- Shoes -ornaments
- Bags -furniture
- Wallets -masks
- Hats, etc.–shields

INTRODUCTION TO ORNAMENTS.

Ornaments are objects that are worn to enhance the appearance of something. These objects can be plain or highly decorated.

Ornaments usually make something look more attractive and beautiful.

The word “Jewellery” is another term used for ornaments worn on the human body.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS USED FOR MAKING ORNAMENTS.

Ornaments are made in a variety of different materials which include;

- Seeds of all shapes and sizes
- Pieces of wood plain or painted.
- Bones
- Horns which can be used for interesting bangles and beads.
- Feathers for ear – rings.
- Shells
- Reeds such as those used by the Turkana to make their collar necklaces.
- Bamboo

- Scrap metal can be hammered into bangles, rings and necklaces.
- Papers
- Glue
- Beads
- Threads, etc.

The major tools used include,

- Scissors
- Knives / cutters
- Needles
- Pliers for metal and wire work.
- Hammer etc.

THE TECHNIQUES OF MAKING ORNAMENTS.

These are various techniques and processes used in ornament – making. Each technique depends on the type of ornament being made and the materials to be used. They include;

Bead work; these include strung beads, strung and knotted beadwork, woven beadwork, stop stitch beadwork, etc. Beadwork is used by many African people to make interesting necklaces.

Bone jewellery; this involves the use of the bone which may be cut and shaped into any form and used as beads, bangles or used as part of the necklace. The bone can be incised with patterns or can be dyed or painted.

Metal jewellery; copper, brass, scrap iron and aluminium can be cut and shaped to form jewellery.

Papier mache jewellery; newspapers or glossy magazines pictures can be used to make beads and other forms of ornaments. These shapes can be painted or varnished with bright colours.

THE PROCESS OF MAKING STRUNG BEAD NECKLACE.

- Sketch your idea on the paper and colour it appropriately.
- Select the beads to be used.
- Using strong thread, such as polyester and fishing line, string the beads according to the design.
- Wax one end of the thread to make it easier to thread the beads or use a beading needle.
- Use a slip knot at one end of the thread to prevent the beads from slipping off.
- When threading is complete, release the slip knot and join the two ends of the thread and make a suitable knot.

GLOSSY MAGAZINE PAPIER MACHE BEAD NECKLACE.

- Cut out different coloured pictures or plain coloured glossy paper from magazines. Tear them into strips.
- Roll the glossy strip of paper round on a small stick or wire forming the shape required and put glue at the end.
- Repeat the above step until you produce enough beads.
- Allow the beads to dry thoroughly and varnish them with clear varnish.
- String the beads into attractive necklace.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. (a) Define puppetry.
(b). Mention any two materials and two tools used in preparing puppets.
2. (a). What is a marionette?
(b). Describe the procedure of making a marionette.

3. (a). Define the term leather.

 (b). Outline two materials and two tools used in leather work.
4. (a). What is leather processing?

 (b). Explain at least four methods processing leather.
5. Define the following terms used in leather work

(i). Stippling

(ii). Stumping

(iii). Embossing.

(iv). Tooling