colour and tone
Wassily Kandinsky, one of the designers at the Bauhaus school of design, thought that colour had a degree of warmth and cold as well as brightness and darkness. He thought the colour yellow was warm, blue was cold and red medium warm. He also thought that the three primary colours should be assigned to three basic geometric shapes, circle (blue), triangle (yellow) and square (red). He was inspired by a colour wheel developed by the artist Johann Wolfgang Van Goethe.

Task 1
Example 1 shows the emblem or logo of the Bauhaus Design Movement. Using simple geometric shapes and only the colours black and white design an emblem or logo of either your own initials, a design that would show your hobbies and interests or a badge for a sporting activity you are associated with.

Task 2
Example 2 shows how important colour and tone were in the posters designed by the Bauhaus Design Movement. Using 3 shades of blue, 3 shades of yellow and 3 shades of red (as well as only the 3 basic geometric shapes) develop a picture that shows either a building or a scene viewed from a window of your house. Finish the picture with a black border.

Task 3
Example 3 shows a poster designed by the Bauhaus Design Movement. It uses the 3 basic geometric shapes. On an A4 sheet of paper, design your own poster that only uses the 3 basic geometric shapes. Add the correct colour and tone to each geometric shape. Where a new geometric shape has been formed, due to line crossover, colour the shape black.

Task 4
Example 4 shows a colour wheel developed by the artist Johann Wolfgang Van Goethe. Look closely at the tone of the colours. Choose 7 of your favourite coloured pencils and decide whether they are warm or cold colours. On A4 paper (landscape or portrait), start by colouring a warm bar at the top of the page and end by colouring a cold bar at the bottom of the page. The page should go warm to cold, top to bottom. Give each coloured bar 3 tones, heavy, medium and light.

Fact
Bauhaus was an influential art and design movement that began in 1919 in Weimar, Germany. It was founded by a German architect named Walter Gropius.

Fact
Bauhaus design mainly use the 3 primary colours of blue, yellow and red.

Fact
Basic geometric shapes, such as circles, triangles and squares were mainly used in Bauhaus designs.

Fact
Colour and tone were important in Bauhaus design and many of the ideas that were developed from the movement can still be recognised in the everyday objects around us.