

NID DAT Drawing

Sample Paper – 7

Duration: 135 Minutes | **Maximum Marks:** 70

Instructions

- This paper contains **4 Drawing Tasks (subjective)**, modelled on Part B of the NID DAT (Design Aptitude Test) Prelims.
- This is **Paper – 7**.
- Read each question carefully before you begin drawing.
- Attempt **all** questions. Each question is compulsory.
- Use the drawing space provided below each question. Do not draw outside the designated frame.
- Pencil is the primary medium unless colour is explicitly permitted in the question.
- Manage your time wisely; suggested time is indicated for each question.
- Label your frames, elements, or compositions wherever required by the question.
- Marks are awarded for composition, observation, creativity, and technical execution.
- Do not write your name anywhere on the drawing space.

Question 1 | Observation and Memory Drawing

[15 Marks | Medium: Pencil | Suggested time: 25 min]

Scene (read once, then cover and draw from memory):

A monsoon-flooded street scene in a small Indian town. The road is covered in a shallow layer of water (about ankle-deep) reflecting the overcast grey sky. An autorickshaw is stalled in the middle of the road — its driver stands on the seat, lifting the engine flap and peering in. A woman in a bright sari holds a large red umbrella overhead as she carefully wades through the water, holding her sari hem above the waterline. In the foreground, two children are crouching beside the gutter, sailing paper boats in the fast-flowing drain water alongside them. On the right side of the road, a cycle shop with its shutters half-pulled has a hand-painted “Closed” sign, but water is pooling at the shop entrance. A broken streetlight leans at a 15-degree angle in the background on the left, its shade cracked.

Task: Reproduce the scene from memory showing all **6 key elements**. Focus on:



- The **reflective quality** of the flooded road.
- The **sense of motion** in the water.
- The **emotional contrast** between inconvenience (driver, flooded shop) and playfulness (children, paper boats).

Drawing Space



Question 2 | Storyboarding and Narrative Drawing

[20 Marks | Medium: Pencil | Suggested time: 35 min]

Create a **4-frame storyboard (2×2 grid)** titled **“From Signal to Stage”** — the journey of a street musician:

- **Frame 1 — Traffic Signal:** A young man plays a simple bamboo flute standing between stopped cars at a busy junction. He is thin, wears a torn kurta, eyes slightly closed in concentration. One car driver looks irritated, but a child in the backseat presses her palm to the window, transfixed. Traffic light is red. *Label: “Signal No. 23, 8 AM”.*
- **Frame 2 — The Break:** A well-dressed woman (music producer) steps out of a car and hands the musician a business card. His expression shifts — surprise mixed with disbelief. He looks at the card, then at her, holding his flute mid-air. The cars behind have started moving. *Label: “One card. One chance.”*
- **Frame 3 — Rehearsal Studio:** Same musician, now in a recording studio — glass panel, mixing board visible through it. He plays the same flute but now wears clean clothes. Two musicians accompany him on tabla and sitar (visible in background). A producer watches from behind the glass. *Label: “Three months later”.*
- **Frame 4 — Concert Stage:** The musician stands in a cone of spotlight on a huge concert stage, arms spread, playing passionately. A vast crowd is visible in silhouette below. Confetti falls from above. *Label: “The Night. The Stage.”*

Each frame must show: **clear action, emotional expression, environmental context**, and **contrast between frames** (scale, lighting, crowd).

Drawing Space



Question 3 | Landscape with Atmospheric Perspective

[15 Marks | Medium: Pencil | Suggested time: 25 min]

Draw a landscape using **ATMOSPHERIC (aerial) PERSPECTIVE** to convey depth.

Subject: A river valley scene. In the foreground, a detailed rocky bank with tall grasses and a wooden fishing boat pulled ashore. In the mid-ground, a stone arch bridge spans the river; cattle cross it; a village of terracotta-roofed houses clusters on the far bank. In the background, rolling forested hills fade into a hazy sky.

Rules for atmospheric perspective:

- **Foreground** objects (rocks, boat, grass): Heavy outline, strong tonal contrast, fine texture detail.
- **Mid-ground** objects (bridge, village): Medium line weight, moderate tone.
- **Background** hills: Very light, almost no outline, soft edge, minimal detail.
- All horizontal elements (river surface, flat fields) help the eye recede.
- Show the river as a band of flat, light tone running horizontally across the middle zone.

The composition must have **three clearly distinct tonal bands** (dark foreground → medium mid-ground → pale background).

Drawing Space



Question 4 | Typography and Poster Design

[20 Marks | Medium: Pencil + Colour optional | Suggested time: 35 min]

Design a **TYPOGRAPHIC POSTER** for the campaign “**SAVE OUR RIVERS.**”

Requirements:

- The headline “**SAVE OUR RIVERS**” must be **hand-lettered** (not printed-style) as the dominant visual element — make the letterforms expressive.
- Integrate a **VISUAL METAPHOR** into the lettering: the letters are formed from or contain imagery of rivers, fish, lotus plants, water ripples, or flowing water lines — at least **3 of the 4 words** must have a visual element within or around the letterforms.
- Add **ONE supporting illustration** (not text) below the headline: a river scene at sunset with a simple silhouette skyline, a boat, and a lotus in the foreground.
- Include a **tagline** below the illustration (maximum 7 words) that you compose.
- The poster should have a clear **hierarchy**: headline (largest) → illustration → tagline (smallest).
- *Optional*: use one colour for the water elements and leave the rest in black and white pencil.

Drawing Space



Sample Approaches & Evaluation Guide

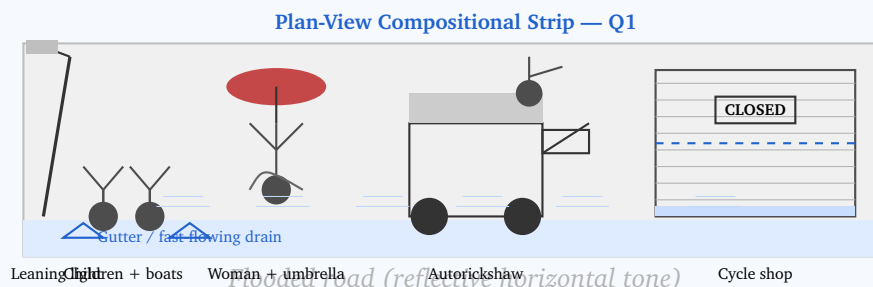
Sample Approach & Evaluation Criteria

Q1 — Monsoon Flooded Street: Observation and Memory Drawing (15 Marks)

Compositional Approach:

- **Composition:** Road as the central horizontal element fills the lower 40% of the page; waterline at road level reflects the sky above.
- **Auto-rickshaw (centre-right):** Three wheels visible (two rear visible from the back, one front implied); driver's figure standing on seat, hood raised — show by a hinged rectangle at rear of canopy and a figure leaning over it.
- **Woman with umbrella (mid-left):** Walking figure, sari hem drawn as an upward curve (raised above water); red umbrella as a large circle above her head.
- **Children (foreground):** Two crouching silhouettes beside the gutter; small paper boat triangles floating in the gutter water (diagonal ripple strokes).
- **Flooded road reflections:** Light horizontal tone across the road; vertical ripple distortions below each standing object.
- **Cycle shop (background right):** Shutter lines (horizontal parallel), "Closed" sign as a small rectangle, water pooled as a dark tone at the base of the shutters.
- **Leaning streetlight (background left):** Simple vertical pole leaning 15°, bent shade at the top.

Compositional Diagram (Plan-View Strip):



Marks Breakdown:

Criterion	Marks
Accurate placement and recall of all 6 elements	5
Flooded road and reflective surface technique	4
Emotional contrast — playful vs. frustrated	3
Atmospheric quality and composition	3
Total	15

Sample Approach & Evaluation Criteria

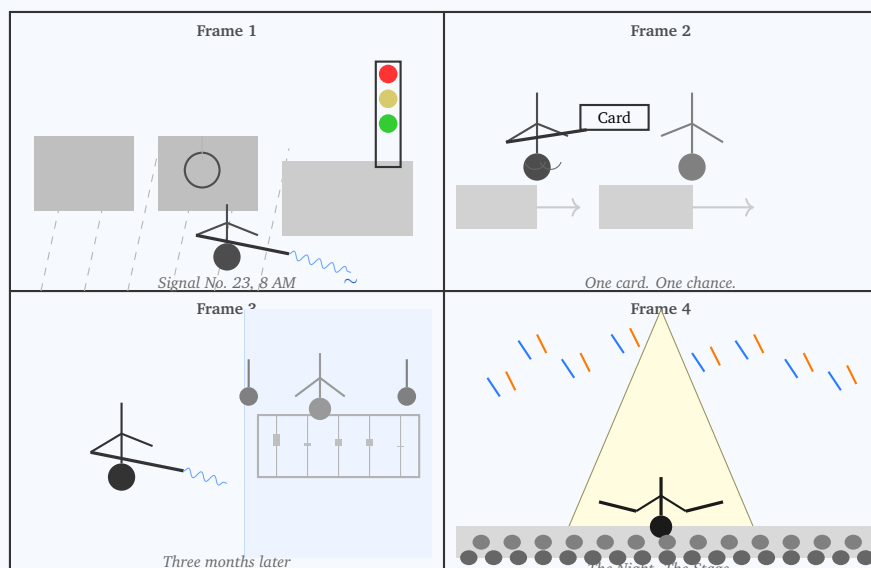
Q2 — Street Musician Storyboard: “From Signal to Stage” (20 Marks)

Compositional Approach:

- **Grid layout:** 2×2 grid with ruled borders and labels in each frame corner or base.
- **Frame 1 (traffic junction):** Wide shot — road markings visible, cars as chunky rectangles; musician in the gap between lanes; child’s face at car window as a circle with wide eyes and palm pressed to glass; traffic light as a vertical rectangle with three circles.
- **Frame 2 (card exchange):** Medium close-up — woman and musician face each other; card held between her extended fingers and his; his expression shown by raised eyebrows, slightly open mouth; the flute angled between them.
- **Frame 3 (studio):** Two-zone composition divided by the glass panel; musician playing in foreground (clean clothes, same flute), tabla and sitar players behind; producer silhouette beyond the glass.
- **Frame 4 (concert):** Extreme wide shot — stage at the centre; a bright spotlight cone from above; musician as a small but prominent figure at the cone’s base; crowd as a dense mass of small oval heads receding into darkness; confetti as small diagonal dashes falling from the top of the frame.

Storyboard Grid Diagram:





Marks Breakdown:

Criterion	Marks
Narrative clarity and frame-to-frame progression	6
Emotional expression and character consistency	5
Environmental context and scale contrast	5
Labels and grid layout	4
Total	20

Sample Approach & Evaluation Criteria

Q3 — River Valley Landscape: Atmospheric Perspective (15 Marks)

Compositional Approach:

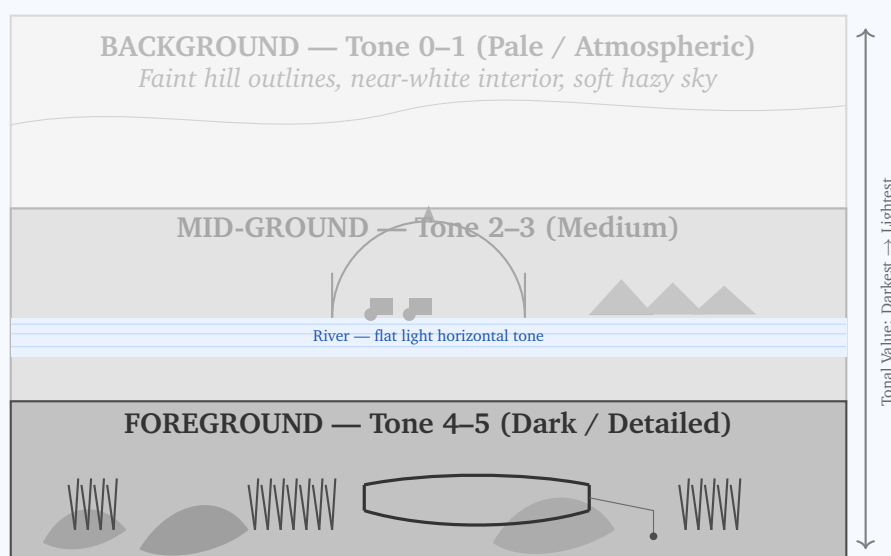
- **Three horizontal bands:** Foreground (lower ~35%), mid-ground (middle ~35%), sky/background (upper ~30%).
- **Foreground:** Heavy dark outlines for boulders (organic irregular shapes); thick grass blades as vertical strokes; fishing boat as a wide flat-bottomed elliptical form, one end on shore; rope line from boat to a stake.
- **Mid-ground bridge:** Stone arch over the river drawn with medium line weight; arch curve with keystone visible; cattle as simplified 4-legged block shapes crossing the bridge; village: rows of trapezoid roofs with cylindrical chimney pots, terracotta tone suggested by light hatching.
- **River:** Flat horizontal band of light tone with very subtle horizontal ripple lines in



the mid-ground section.

- **Background hills:** Soft undulating skyline drawn with a single thin faint pencil line; interiors left white or very lightly smudged; sky above = blank or very faint horizontal strokes at the horizon.
- **Tonal values:** Foreground = tone value 4–5 (darkest), mid-ground = 2–3, background = 0–1.

Three Tonal Bands Diagram:



Marks Breakdown:

Criterion	Marks
Three distinct tonal bands clearly established	5
Foreground detail and texture	4
Mid-ground structural accuracy (bridge, village, cattle)	3
Background atmospheric fading	3
Total	15

Sample Approach & Evaluation Criteria

Q4 — Typographic Poster: “SAVE OUR RIVERS” (20 Marks)

Compositional Approach:

- **Hierarchy:** “SAVE OUR RIVERS” in large hand-lettered type (approx. 40–50% of

page height); illustration below (approx. 35%); tagline at base (small, approx. 10%).

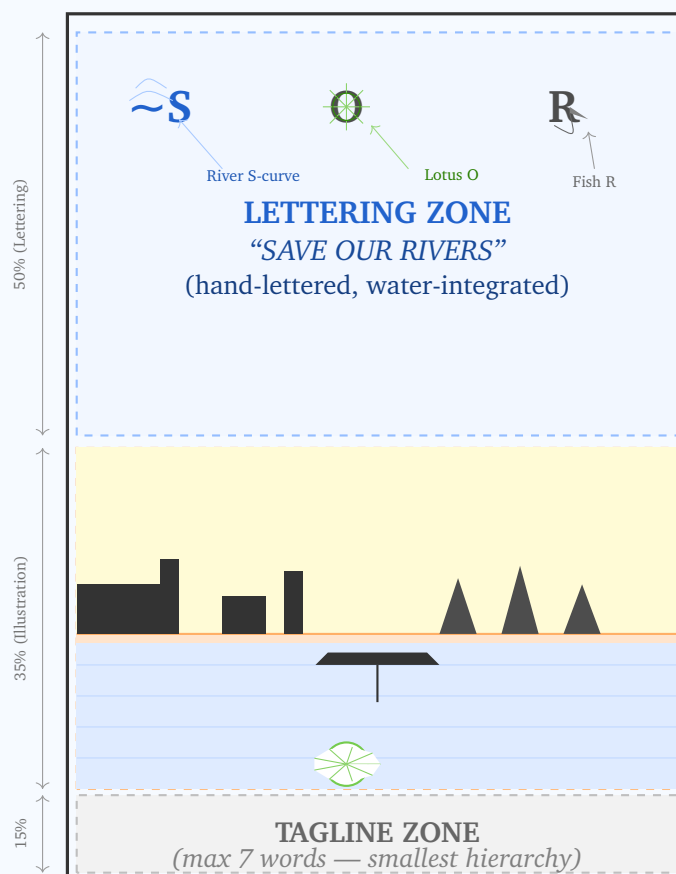
• **Lettering strategy — water-infused letterforms:**

- “S” in “SAVE”: the letter form is made of a flowing river curve — a thick sinuous S-shaped waterway viewed from above; ripples shown as concentric thin curves inside the letter width.
- “O” in “OUR”: replaced by a lotus flower in full bloom, viewed from above — petals form the round letter.
- “R” in “RIVERS”: the leg and tail of the R become fish shapes — one large fish forms the vertical stroke, two smaller ones trail behind.
- At minimum, integrate water ripples or lotus motifs into the remaining letter-forms.

- **Supporting illustration:** A horizontal composition below the lettering — an orange/amber sunset glow at horizon; a flat river surface; a silhouette skyline of factories and trees; a narrow boat silhouette in the mid-ground; a single large lotus in the foreground.

- **Tagline (candidate may compose own):** “Let rivers breathe. Let life flow.” or “Every river is someone’s story.”

Poster Layout Diagram:



Marks Breakdown:

Criterion	Marks
Expressive hand-lettering quality and size hierarchy	5
Visual metaphor integration into letterforms (3+ words)	6
Illustration composition and atmosphere	5
Tagline and overall poster hierarchy	4
Total	20



Evaluation Criteria Summary

Q.No	Task Type	Marks	Primary Focus
Q1	Observation Memory Drawing	15	Element recall, reflection, atmospheric mood
Q2	Storyboarding Narrative	20	Emotional arc, scale contrast, narrative clarity
Q3	Landscape Atmospheric Perspective	15	Tonal bands, recession, detail hierarchy
Q4	Typography Poster Design	20	Lettering, visual metaphor, poster hierarchy
Total		70	

