

MAH AAC CET Memory Drawing

Sample Paper – 9 | 2026

Duration: 90 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

Instructions

- This paper contains **1 practical question** modelled on the MAH AAC CET Memory Drawing examination pattern.
- Total marks: **50**. There is **no negative marking**.
- Draw entirely **from memory only** — reference materials, photographs, printed images, or electronic devices are strictly prohibited.
- Render your composition in **poster colour or watercolour** on a drawing sheet of approximately **14" × 19"** (or as directed by the invigilator).
- Use **pencil only** for the initial outline; complete the drawing in colour. Pencil lines must not be visible in the final submission.
- Write your **seat number and name** clearly on the front of the drawing sheet before beginning.
- Do **not leave the examination hall** before the allotted time has elapsed.
- **Mobile phones, calculators, and all electronic gadgets** are strictly prohibited inside the examination hall.

Memory Drawing Question

Question (50 Marks):

Draw a scene of a **Diwali evening on a decorated residential street** from memory. Show rows of houses with lit diyas (clay lamps) arranged on window sills, doorsteps, and compound walls; strings of electric lights and paper lanterns strung between buildings; a family in traditional attire lighting sparklers in the foreground; children running with phuljharis (sparklers); a decorative rangoli pattern with diyas around it on the road; fireworks bursting in the dark sky in the background; and the warm, golden glow of oil lamps reflected on the street. Render your composition in **poster colour or watercolour**, capturing the warmth, festivity, and luminous atmosphere of the festival of lights.

Suggested Composition Layout

The thumbnail below illustrates one possible compositional arrangement. Candidates are encouraged to develop their own original composition.





Thumbnail: Diwali Evening Street

Evaluation Rubric (50 Marks)

Marking Rubric

Criterion	Descriptors	Marks
Composition & Layout	Balanced arrangement; clear foreground, middle ground, and background; effective use of the full sheet	10
Proportion & Perspective	Figures and objects in correct relative scale; diminution of far objects; convincing spatial depth	10
Details & Scene Elements	Key elements present (diyas, rangoli, electric lights, sparklers, fireworks, decorated house facades, family figures); richness of observed detail	10
Colour & Rendering	Confident use of poster/watercolour; effective tonal contrast; mood conveyed through colour	10
Imagination & Mood	Atmosphere and energy of the scene conveyed; originality; narrative quality of composition	10
Total		50

Preparation Guidance



- **Observe first, draw later:** Visit streets during Diwali; note patterns of light, how the warm orange glow of diyas contrasts with the deep blue-black sky, and how electric strings of light create canopy-like arches between buildings.
- **Plan with a thumbnail:** Establish the central street vista, placement of house facades on either side, and position of the rangoli early; spend 5–7 minutes on a small compositional sketch before starting the full drawing.
- **Foreground–middle–background:** Place the rangoli and foreground figures at the bottom, house facades with lit windows in the middle ground, and fireworks bursting against the night sky in the background.
- **Lighting effects:** Practise wet-on-wet dark washes for the night sky; use dry-brush or stippling for the sparkle of fireworks and the halo of light around each diya flame.
- **Colour strategy:** Use a warm-cool contrast — warm yellows, oranges, and reds of lamps and rangoli against a cool blue-black sky — to capture the luminous festive atmosphere.
- **Time management:** Approximately 10 minutes for composition planning, 50 minutes for painting, and 30 minutes for detailing and finishing touches.

