

MAH AAC CET Design & Composition

Sample Paper – 3 | 2026

Duration: 90 Minutes | Maximum Marks: 50

Instructions

- This paper contains **1 practical design question** modelled on the MAH AAC CET Design & Composition (Practical Paper I) pattern.
- Total marks: **50**. There is **no negative marking**.
- Render the design in **Poster Colour or Watercolour** on a drawing sheet of approximately **14" × 19"**.
- First draw the **single repeat unit** clearly, labelled "*Tile Unit*"; then draw the **tiled arrangement** (3×3 or 4×3 grid) alongside or below it.
- Use pencil for the initial layout; **pencil lines must not be visible** in the final submission.
- Write your **seat number and name** clearly on the front of the sheet before beginning.
- **No** mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets are allowed in the examination hall.

Design & Composition Question

Question (50 Marks):

Create a **repeat pattern design** inspired by **leaf or floral forms**. Your work must show:

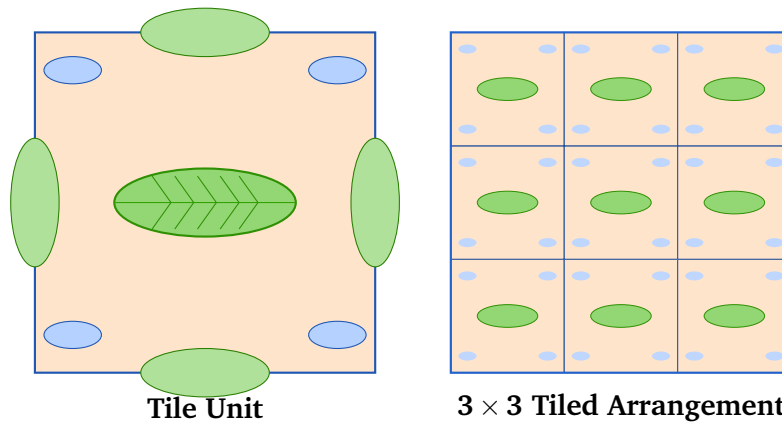
- (i) A clearly drawn **single tile unit** (approximately 8 cm × 8 cm) with a leaf or flower as the dominant motif;
- (ii) The tile repeated in a **3 × 3 or 4 × 3 grid** to demonstrate how the pattern creates a seamless, continuous surface — as would appear on textile or decorative paper;
- (iii) The design rendered in at least **four harmonious colours** that establish a pleasing rhythm across the repeated surface.

Show how the motifs at tile edges connect with their neighbours (half-motifs at edges should align). The overall effect must convey **pattern, rhythm, and surface unity**.



Suggested Composition Layout

The thumbnail below illustrates how the tile unit (left) should be presented alongside the tiled arrangement (right). Your actual work should be rendered fully in colour on a full-size drawing sheet.



Thumbnail: Leaf Repeat Pattern — Tile Unit (left) and 3×3 Tiled Arrangement (right)

Evaluation Rubric (50 Marks)

Marking Rubric

Criterion	Descriptors	Marks
Unit Design & Motif Quality	Well-designed tile unit; leaf/floral motif clearly recognizable and decoratively treated	12
Seamless Tiling & Edge Alignment	Motifs at tile edges align correctly with neighbours; pattern appears continuous	12
Colour Harmony	Four or more colours used; harmonious palette; effective contrast between motif and background	10
Rhythm & Surface Effect	Strong sense of rhythm across the tiled surface; visual interest maintained across the grid	8
Neatness & Technical Execution	Clean edges, even colour application, consistent tile size, and tidy presentation	8
Total		50

Preparation Guidance



- **Traditional inspiration:** Study block-print textile patterns such as Bagru, Ajrakh, and Kalamkari to see how a single motif creates a rich surface when repeated consistently.
- **Edge continuity:** Whatever enters one edge of the tile must exit the opposite edge at the *same position*, so that tiles align seamlessly when placed side by side. Practise this with simple geometric shapes first.
- **Colour alternation:** Try alternating the motif colour across rows (e.g. a green leaf in one row, a blue leaf in the next) to add visual variety without changing the form.
- **Simplifying leaf forms:** Reduce real leaf shapes to smooth, pointed ovals or diamonds. Add a central vein line and small side veins to introduce texture and detail.
- **Background vs. motif:** Decide early which areas are background colour and which are motif colour. Maintaining this distinction consistently across every tile is essential for a unified surface.
- **Time management:** Approximately 10 min for planning the tile unit → 15 min for pencil layout of the unit and tiling grid → 50 min for colour application → 15 min for finishing and clean-up.

