

Intro to Landscape Design Project Part I

by C. Kohn, Waterford WI



Name: _____ Hour _____ Date: _____

Date Assignment is due: _____ Why late? _____ Score: + ✓ -
Day of Week Date If your project was late, describe why

Overview: this is a multi-day project to help you become familiar with the big ideas that are a part of Landscape Design. This is a paper assignment but other options are available as well. If you would rather complete the objectives of this assignment in format other than writing (such as a blueprint, sketch, or other appropriate non-writing format), speak with your instructor first. Be aware that you may have to work harder to accomplish the same objectives in formats that are not written. All work should be turned into the instructor at the end of the allotted work-time.

Instructions: throughout your life, you have experienced many outdoor places. In written paper (or other format if you instructor approves), address the following:

- **What is the most pleasant, relaxing, or enjoyable outdoor space that you have ever visited?**
 - *This could be a park, a part of your backyard, a place at school, a forest, a deerstand, a lawn, a golf course, a playground, a nature preserve, etc.*
- In general, **provide as many details as you can as to why this was an enjoyable place.** What makes this place different from every other place you have encountered in your life?
- Be specific and **address 5 specific components** of this landscape that made it enjoyable.
 - These could include a sense of privacy, how the landscape made you want to explore, how the landscape enabled you to relax, any specific activities the landscape enabled, specific emotions evoked by the plants or materials in the area, memories the landscape brought up, etc.
- Provide a very-detailed description of how this landscape was set up to make it appealing and functional.
 - **Entry:** How did you enter the landscape?
 - Was there only one entrance, a primary entrance, or no defined entry point?
 - How would this landscape changed if the point of entry were changed (e.g. if there was one entry, how would it be different if there were many? Or vice versa?)
 - **Borders:** Did this landscape have borders? Were they intentional or unintentional? How did these borders add to the appeal of the landscape?
 - Borders could be intentional or unintentional. For example, if there was a fence of some kind, this would most certainly be a border. However, natural elements can also create a border. For example, a river or a row of dense shrubs might also create a border without any specific intent to do so. Imagine yourself in this landscape – where the landscape ends in your mind is where there was probably a border.
 - **Views:** Describe the views from your favorite point in this landscape. What did you see when you were in this landscape?
 - Was the view panoramic with a wide view over a great distance?
 - Was the view focused on a specific point, such as a statue or piece of architecture?
 - Was the view very blocked and sheltered?
 - **Sound:** What noises did you hear in this landscape? How did they add to the appeal of the landscape?

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- **Vegetation:** what kind of plants were found in this landscape?
 - Were there trees? If so, what kind (broadleaf or coniferous? Large or small?)
 - Were there colorful plants? How did this affect the landscape? Were they flowers or other kinds of plants? Did someone have to plant these or did they occur naturally?
 - Was there a lawn? How would the landscape change if this changed? Would it be more or less appealing to you? Would it be easier or harder to enjoy?
 - Describe any other vegetation present in this landscape that hasn't been described already and determine what kind of impact it had on your enjoyment of the landscape.
- **Rocks, wood, mulch, etc.:** what other natural, non-plant components were a part of this landscape?
 - How did these natural elements affect your enjoyment of this landscape?
 - How did these natural elements affect the functionality of this landscape?
- **Structural:** Were there buildings, structures, or manmade features in or around this landscape?
 - If so, how did they affect the appeal of the landscape? Were they used to enhance the appeal of the landscape or was the landscape used to escape from the buildings?
 - If not, how would the landscape be changed by structures? Could your enjoyment of landscape become even greater if some kind of structure (not necessarily a building) were present?
- **Maintenance:** Did you or anyone ever have to do anything to maintain this landscape? Was it naturally self-maintaining or was human effort needed to maintain this landscape in the condition that you enjoyed?
- **Improvement:** how could this landscape be improved to increase your enjoyment of it? Name at least two specific changes that could be made to it to make it more functional, beautiful, or self-maintaining.

How will this be graded?

This assignment is graded on a + ✓ - basis. This usually breaks down to a + = 100%, a ✓ = 80%, and a - = 60%. While many factors are considered when assigning a grade, use the descriptors for each grade below to determine how to get the grade you want:

- + (100%) – the author exceeded the expectations of the instructor. Their work is free of spelling and grammar errors and their work is easy to read and understand. It is obvious the author put in a lot of time and effort relevant to their abilities. The author probably checked with the instructor periodically to ensure that what they intended to write met the expectations of the instructor. The instructor would be happy to use this as an class example to show to the school board or an administrator.
- ✓ (80%) – this is acceptable work for a high school student. Every consideration was addressed and their work is relatively easy to read and understand. However, a little more effort probably would have helped to increase the value of this assignment for the student. The author probably should have worked more closely with their instructor before submitting this assignment to catch these errors before receiving their grade.
- - (60%) – this is the bare minimum that could be accepted for a grade. Problems could include a) major omissions (i.e. entire questions were missed or not fully addressed); b) serious spelling or grammar errors (this student should have had someone else peer review it before submitting it); c) this just simply does not resemble what should be produced in the amount of time given due to its lack of length, lack of effort, lack of professionalism, or all of the above.
- Redo – the work that has been submitted is not acceptable for grading. Re-submit for a late score.

Intro to Landscape Design Project Part II

by C. Kohn, Waterford WI



Name: _____ Hour _____ Date: _____

Date Assignment is due: _____ Why late? _____ Score: + ✓ -
Day of Week Date If your project was late, describe why

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Instructions: use the internet to **find an example of Landscape Design or Landscape Architecture that really appeals to you** (search until you find something that really stands out and speaks to you). Try visiting one of the following sites:

<http://www.creativeblog.com/inspiration/landscape-designs-11121231>

<http://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/landscape/index.htm>

<http://www.asla.org/2011awards/index.html>

http://inasla.org/downloads/INASLA_Awards/2012_inasla_professional_awards_presentation_honor_award_award_of_excellence.pdf

If these do not help you to find something inspiring, use an internet search engine to find more examples. Remember – you have a limited amount of time to complete this! Your choice should be a landscape that has been designed by people (i.e. while an untouched forest may be appealing, we are focusing on landscapes that people can create).

Step 1: once you have found an example that you really like, use an internet search engine to find more information about the site (images and base plans will be especially helpful).

Step 2: open PowerPoint (or a similar program). Save your file to the Common R: Drive, Agriscience folder, 2014 Landscape Design folder, as “Your Last Name – Intro Project”. Your instructor will only grade assignments saved here.

Step 3: once you have found multiple sources and images of your preferred landscape and have created your file, use this PowerPoint file (or a similar program) to create the following presentation:

- **Why is this landscape appealing to you?** Provide specific images of examples of things you like about this landscape. In as much detail as possible, tell me what is particularly attractive to you about this area.
- **What seems to be the objective of this landscape?** If you could describe the purpose of this landscape in one or two sentences, what would you say? Back up your claims with evidence.
- **Entry:** How did you enter the landscape? How do you know where to go? Provide specific images.
- **Borders:** what sets this landscape apart from the area around it? How does this create sense of privacy or separation (if it does)? How does this add to the appeal of the landscape? Provide specific images.
- **Views:** does this landscape have you focus on anything in particular? What is your eye drawn to? Is it a specific point or a panorama? Provide specific images.
- **Vegetation:** what kind of plants were found in this landscape? Provide specific images. Describe how the choice of plants seems effective to you.
- **Non-vegetation:** what natural non-vegetative elements are used in this landscape? How are they effective?
- **Manmade/Structural:** What non-natural elements are used effectively?
- **Maintenance:** does this landscape seem self-maintaining? How so? Explain how the level of maintenance required is minimal OR if it seems like the maintenance needed is high, justify why this is acceptable.

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