

**Lesson Title :** Choson Style Coil Vessels

**Class and Grade level(s) :** Art grades 8-12

**Goals and Objectives**

**The student will be able to:**

- 1) Recognize both the forms and decoration found on Korean Choson Dynasty vessels
- 2) Create a coil vessel similar in form to those from the Choson Dynasty
- 3) Skillfully use underglaze to paint images from nature on a vessel similar to those from the Choson Dynasty
- 4) Understand how a clay vessel can be both decorative and functional

**Time required/class periods needed :** 8 50-minute periods ( 5 periods, then break for vessels to dry and be fired, then 3 more sessions for underglazing and glazing)

**Primary source bibliography :**

<http://www.metmuseum.org/search-results?ft=choson+dynasty>  
<http://www.artsmia.org/art-of-asia/history/korea-choson-dynasty.cfm>  
<http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/> (Search: Choson Dynasty)

**Other resources used :**

Korean Ceramics : Reflections of Korean Character. National Museum of Korea

**Required materials/supplies :**

1. gray earthenware clay
2. clay tools (needle, ribs, etc.), water bowls
3. 3", 4", 5" poster board circle patterns
3. royal blue and dark brown underglaze, clear glaze
4. small paintbrushes (bamboo if possible)
5. copy of plan/assessment
6. 2.5" 3.5" white paper, pencil, scissors

**Vocabulary :**

dynasty emperor hand-building technique: coil underglaze/glaze earthenware  
porcelain symmetrical porcelain/earthenware clay decorative/functional

**Procedure :**

1. Students will view images of Choson dynasty Korean pottery from suggested websites and any other sources. They will be directed to look both at the form and surface decoration. Teacher will discuss the importance of images from nature, and their particular meanings. On the front of their plan/assessment page, they will sketch out some thumbnail drawings illustrating the different forms they see.
2. Teacher will review the difference between earthenware clay and porcelain (porcelain is finer, and fires at a higher temperature), and the definition of a "vessel" (a hollow container that can hold something) as well as discuss the link between form and function and decorative vs. functional.
3. After reviewing the criteria on the assessment form, students will fold white paper in half lengthwise, and draw half of a form/shape (along open edge), and then cut it out of both sheets of the folded paper – Result: two matched halves, unattached to one another. They should do this several times, and then trace their 2 best tries into the boxes on the plan sheet.
4. Teacher will demonstrate the following clay building techniques :
  - pounding out a slab to about ½" thick, and then cutting around one of the poster board circles for the base
  - rolling out a coil, and then smoothing either the inside, outside, or both as you go along
  - making the diameter of the vessel larger by placing each successive coil a little to the outside edge of the coil it is placed on and making the diameter of the vessel a little smaller, by placing each successive coil a little to the inside edge of the coil it is being placed on.Teacher will also review slip/score as a way to attach any other pieces (handles, decoration, etc.)
5. Students will begin working with clay. At the end of each session, cover only the top part of the vessel with a cloth, so the lower parts can get a little drier and stronger.
6. When all clay work is done, vessels will need to dry completely, and then be bisque-fired.
7. After the bisque-firing, students will lightly sketch images from nature, including images they have seen on the examples of Choson ceramics. Then, using either blue or brown/black underglaze, they will paint in their images. They should be encouraged to water down a little bit of underglaze to use along with the regular strength underglaze, to get a variety of values in their work.
8. When underglazing is complete, they will cover the vessel with a coat of clear glaze. After firing, work will be assessed.

**Assessment/ Evaluation :**

See attached

Coil Vessel in Choson Style

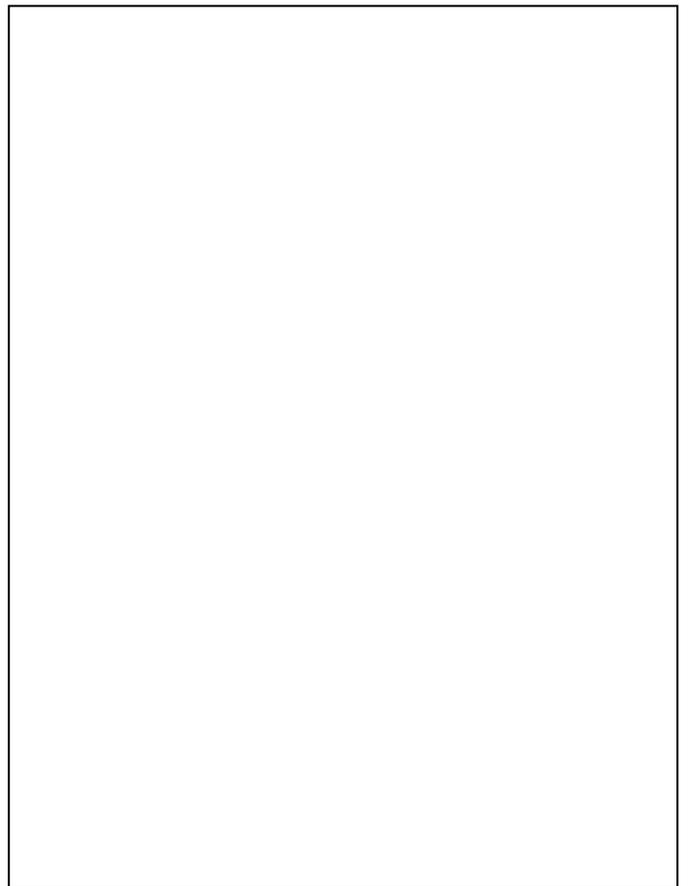
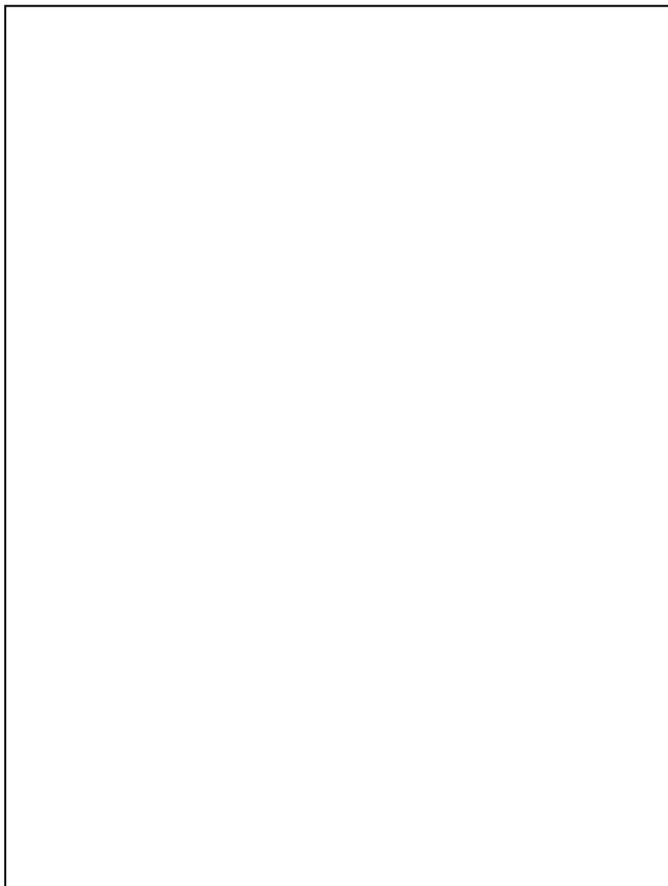
Name \_\_\_\_\_

How are porcelain clay, and gray earthenware clay alike ?

How are they different?

Sketch 2 or more “thumbnail” sketches of Choson forms:

In the box below, draw the form you have chosen to make for this assignment, and the underglaze decoration as seen from each side



**ASSESSMENT** - Rate your work on the following using the range of points below:  
 (12-15) unacceptable (16-17) needs work (18-21) mediocre  
 ( 22-24) well done (25) outstanding

**Project Criteria:** \_\_\_\_\_ /25

Vessel must be a minimum of 8" tall before firing
Traditional Korean form used for vessel
Blue or brown underglaze used to decorate vessel
Underglaze decoration 360 degrees around vessel
Subject of decoration is nature

**Effort:** \_\_\_\_\_ /25

I stayed on task during all of my work time
I talked only when necessary in a low voice
I completed the plan <b>and</b> assessment in <b>full</b>
I cleaned up my area and supplies every day

**Aesthetic Quality / Creativity:** \_\_\_\_\_ /25

My work is special and unique because : (refer to 2 <b>art elements</b> or <b>principles</b> )
Form and underglaze work well together to create realistic representation of Choson vessel

**Craftsmanship:** \_\_\_\_\_ /25

Surface is smooth
Form is symmetrical and even
Underglaze is applied neatly

**If you could do this project again, what would you do differently?**

Student : \_\_\_\_\_ /100      Teacher : \_\_\_\_\_ / 100

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