Elements of Visual Representation
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Lecture - 13

Form has a vast meaning in visual art form does not necessarily mean that it is a shape always, it is rather a formation to understand it in a simpler manner I can just give you a few examples try to imagine, we start from a point and come back to the same point by travelling certain distance, it gives us a sense of a shape. Now, we are starting from one point and coming back to the same point and we are covering an area that can be a circle or maybe a curvish rectilinear, curvilinear formation everything is a possibility there.

Like, as we write words we use letters those are also formations, we have a particular way of writing a particular thing. So, when we are creating a line on a paper, we make sure that it goes in one direction, so these are the considerations that we have in a form. Now, for the like today's discussion, we are going to talk about the forms which are otherwise immobile, they are static.

The reason I am saying that is like there are the other forms which are also moving or it gives you a sense of movement, it is not a real physical movement. But, some illusion of movement those are the possibilities, so let us explore.

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So, let us take example of a form which is otherwise solid, so in this form what we see is that the form has a volume, it has some lighten shades, rendering and other things that is falling on it. So, it gives us a sense of three dimensionality, it has a volume, it has a mass and we can also associate this particular form with some form in nature. So, that way we know that this is one example of a form that looks like a recognizable object, here it is a horse. Now, I will give you another variation of a similar object, but that is done in a different fashion.

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This is another example of an animal it is a horse again, but it is done with a different way. So, we can call it linear form, if the previous one was a solid form, this form has like it occupies a visual area it takes some space. But, it does not have that much of a volume, it is not a solid form rather it is a linear form, it is based on lines here it is a three dimensional physical object. So, the line is replaced by some wire.

So, this is one formation that is also recognizable it is semi abstract with it is associable. So, it is a representational form, we have some reference to the form, we can recognize it has some form that is available in nature now I will give you another variation of a similar object.

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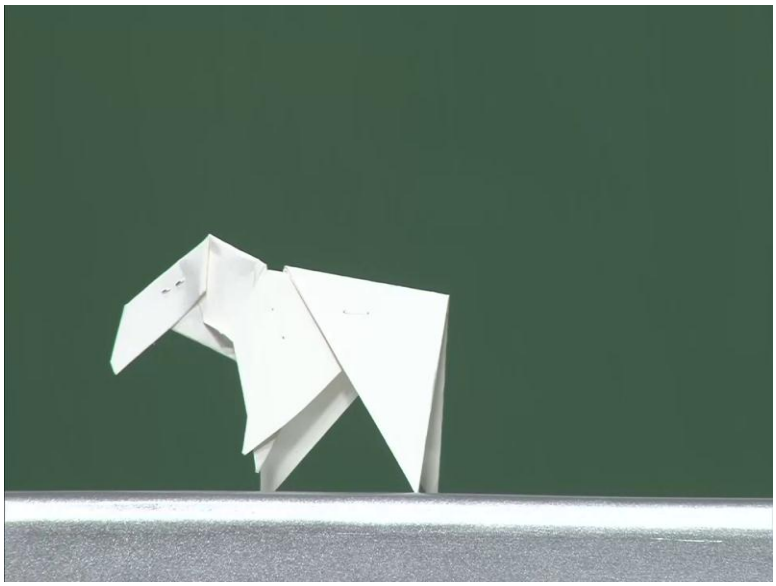

This formation also tells you that this is having the same characteristic it has 4 legs and 1 neck and maybe a head it is again simplified. But, it is not like they are based on planes, it does not have a mass inside it, but it also gives you the association of the animal form that we have seen previously. So, we can create a form in many different ways, let us see the three forms together and try to understand how they are in their physical characteristics.

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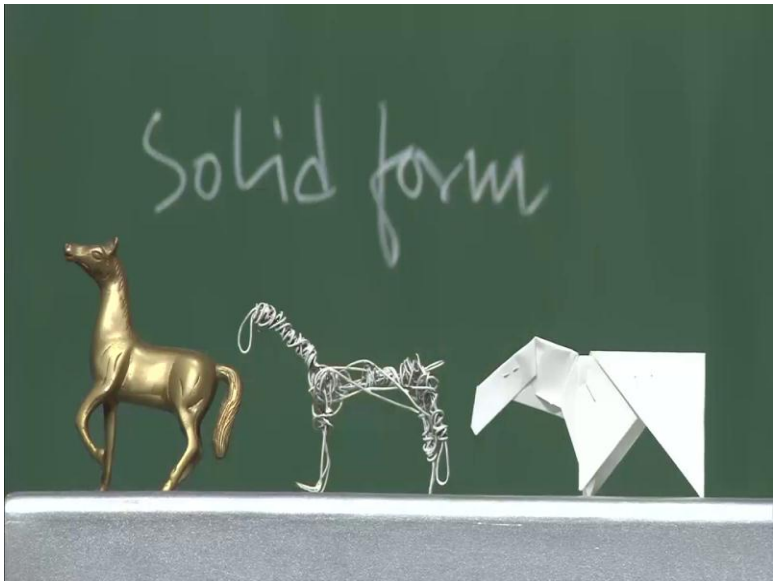

So, they are examples of solid form.

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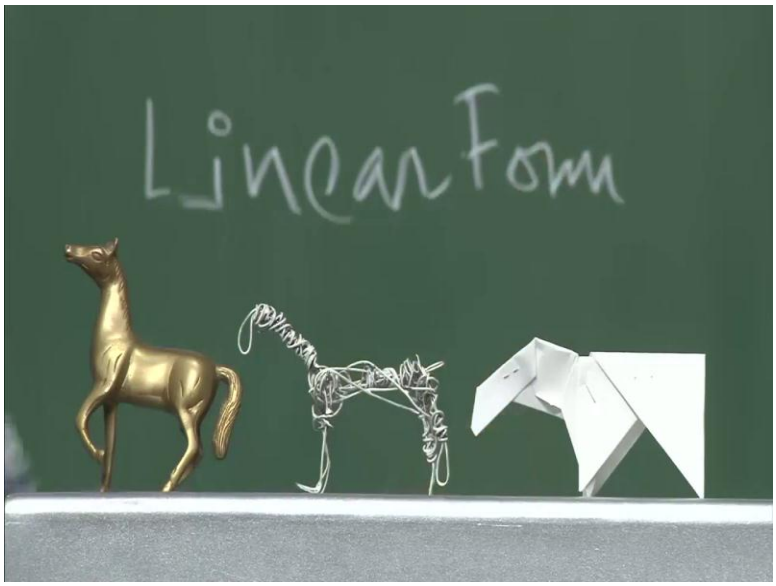

The next is a linear form.

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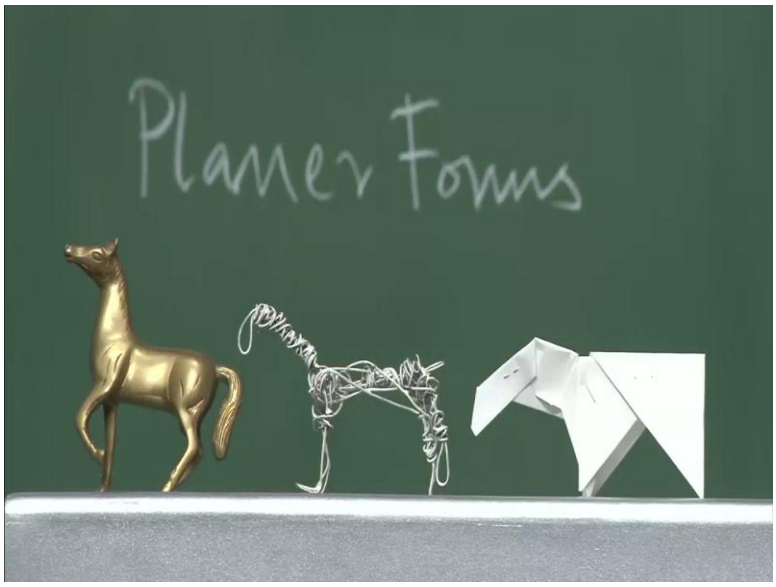

And the last one is a form that is based on planes.

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This is linear for the time being, but the moment I add some texture into it. So, this is an example of a solid form, where the contour is created it is the delineation of the form is based on line and it also has a surface, there can be many other solids form for example,. So, a contour with a surface can give us a sense of a solid form.

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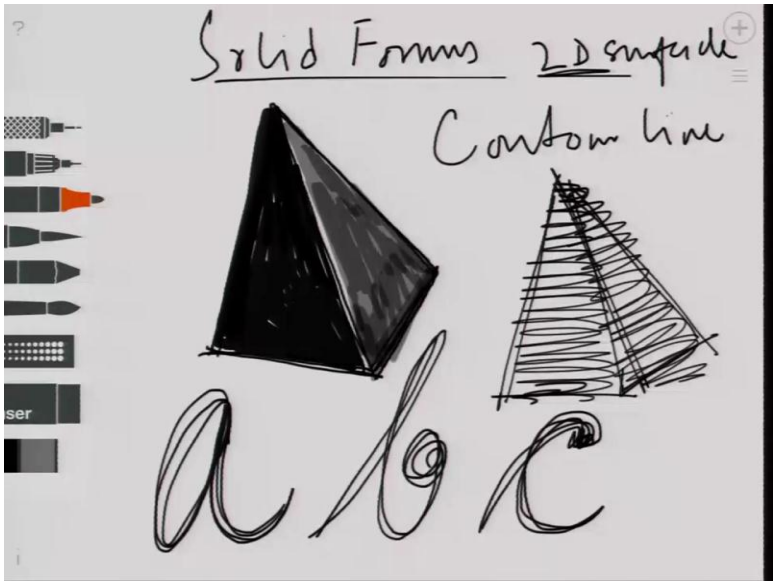

So, this form is paramedical is solid it has a mass and it is done with the help of line. But, still we cannot call it a linear form, because a linear formation will give you a different sizes, a linear formation will try to create a volume with the help of line. So, it is not just

the contour line, but it will give you a sense of line which will help it to form. So, a phone like this can be still called a linear form, let us come up with even more interesting examples, like when we have a formation of a later.

So, that is a, b, c or, so on these are nothing but, a few lines that is moving from a particular direction and thus the formation is taking place. So, these are examples of linear formation and the difference between a solid formation and a linear formation is that the solid formation cannot be only based on line, it has to be given a sense of mass by applying strokes working on the light and shade. So, this way the form will transfer from a line drawing to a solid form.

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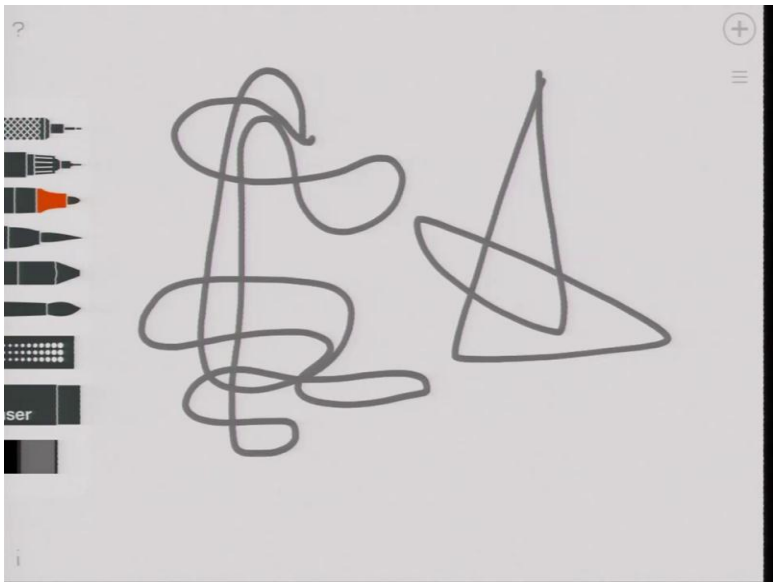

If we make images like this which is based on a line that is starting from a point ending on a point. But, it is completely linear, we know that there are lots of empty areas, lots of air space in between it. So, there will be a ample chance to see through images like this, another example of a form with some balance that may stand on the ground. So, that is another linear formation.

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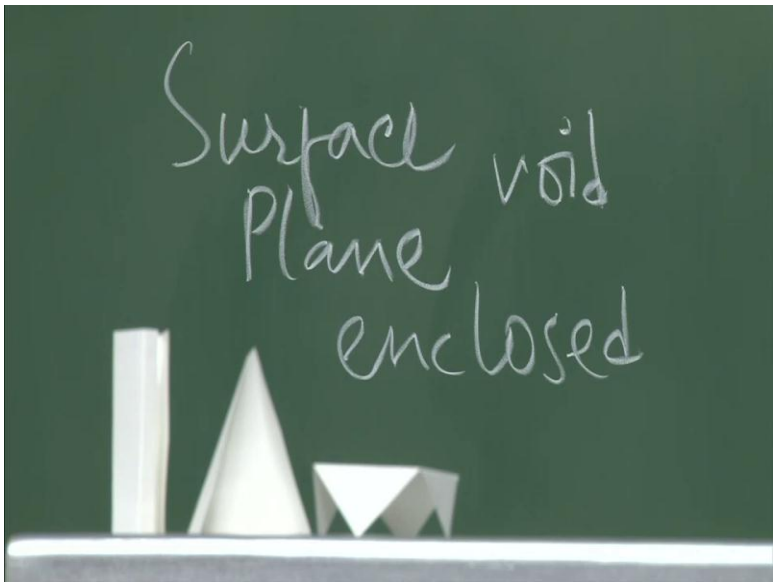

So, these are some forms based on surface or plane, it has a lot of space which is void that are enclosed, almost like an architectural formation where we have a space created with the suggestion of wall.

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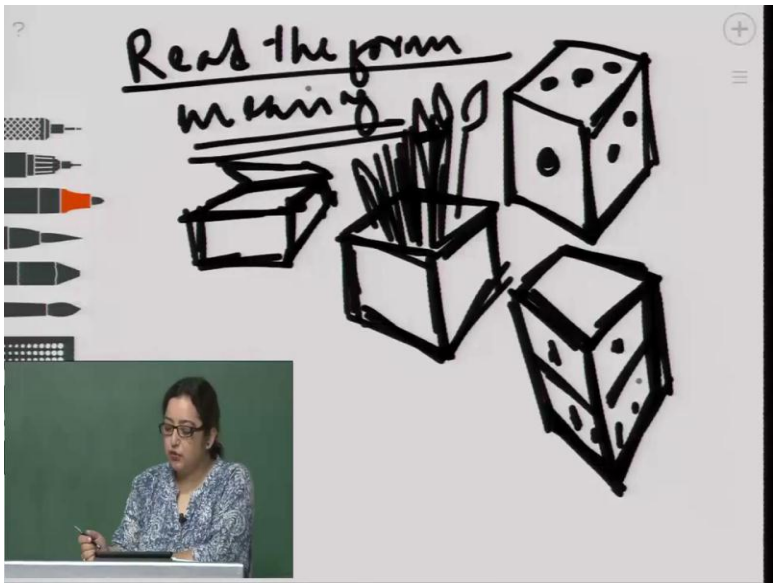

Now, let us see how we associate forms, how we create analogy like a cuboid, if we create a cuboid, it will remind us of many other forms. So, what comes under the cuboid family will be a dice, there can be other examples a cuboid can be also associable with a open book or a building, it can be associable with a plane stand or just a simple box. So,

this forms are more or less analogous, so that is how we create analogy in a form let us realize that with more examples.

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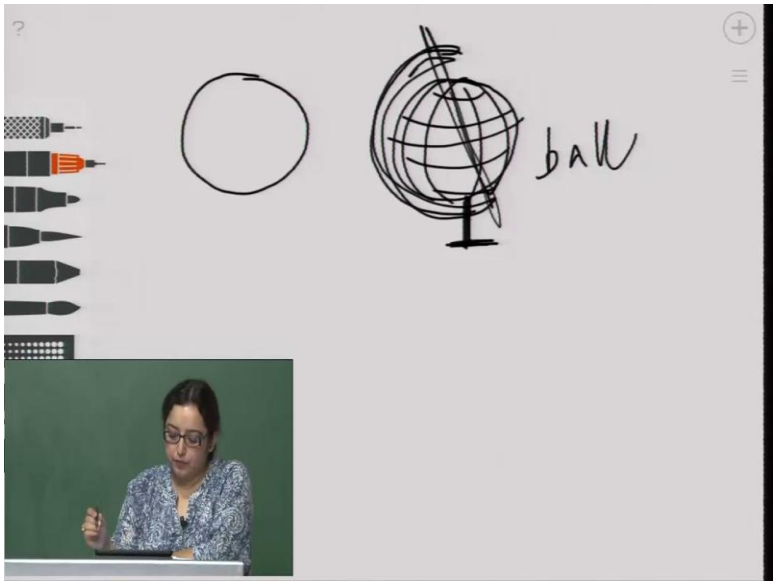

A circle can be associated with many other things, like a ball it can be also seen as a globe.

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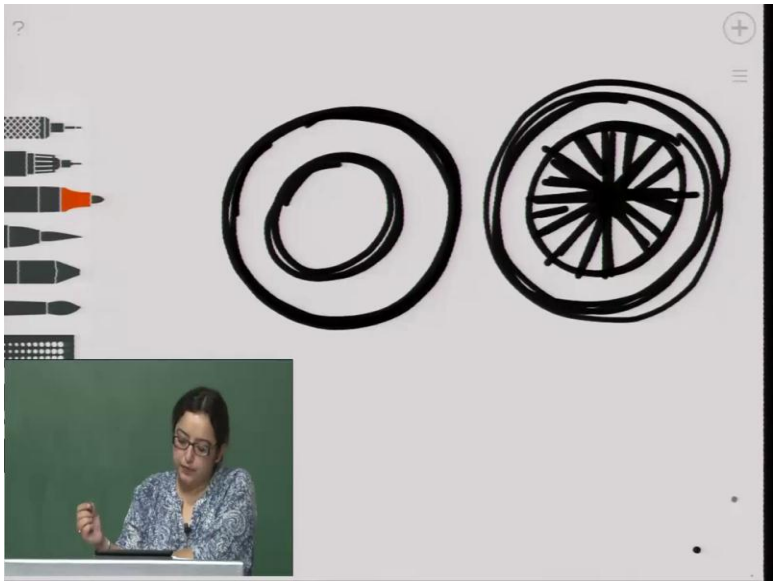

A circular form in a torus shape will give us a sense of a wheel a tyre like formation.

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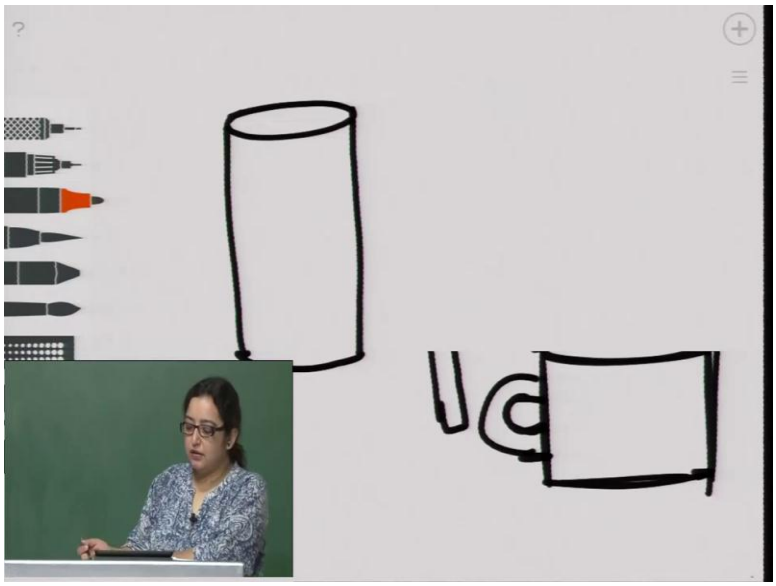

A basic cylinder will remind us of a crayon, a chalk, a straw a can, a cup or many other similar things.

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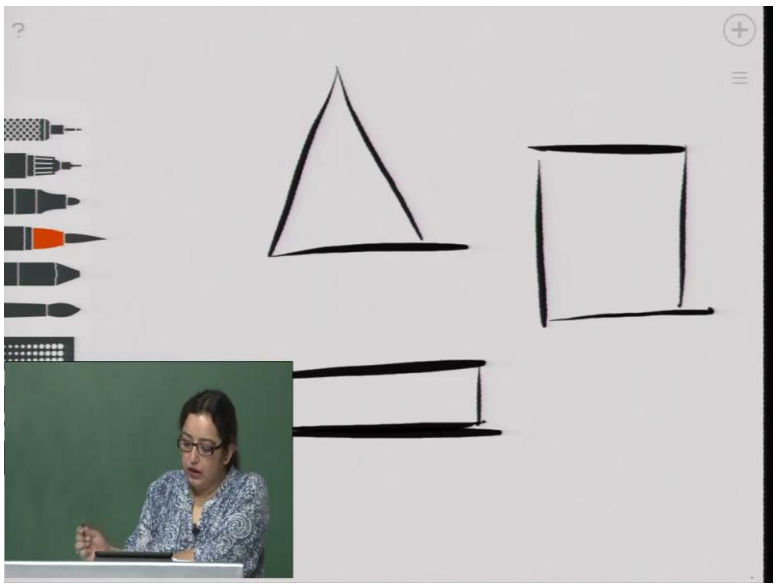

We think of a triangle, a square, a rectangle we combine them.

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So, a combination of a triangle and a square and a rectangle will give us some association of a hut, we can have another rectangle here in a different shape that will start looking like a door and nothing but, it.

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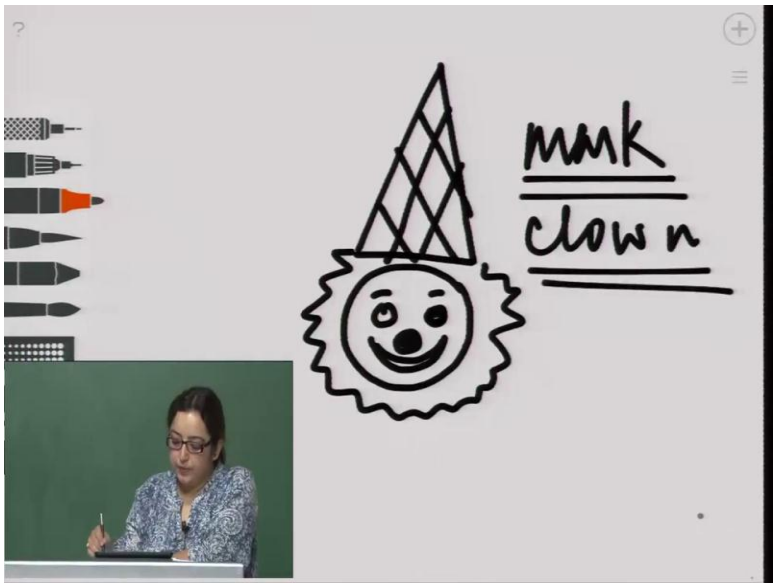

A longer triangle a circle, another circle, another circle, a larger circle, a crescent, a torus will give us a different meaning to a form that is recognizable it can be a mask for a clown. Formation is based on several units, several shapes that we combine we try to give it a different meaning, because of the variation in combination it may appear as

different meanings, from there we drive to different analogies, there are forms which are analogous means they are similar.

The forms come under a particular group, a particular family, so all the forms that are based on triangle will come under the family of a triangular form. The forms which are otherwise circular they will come under the form family of circular forms. So, we go by the basic formations and we try to put them under certain families, certain groups and we group them, we recognize them in some other meaning.

So, form is also closely related to the style of execution that we have talked about in earlier lectures, when we explode the forms and styles, we talked about art and art styles. So, we can refer back to all those discussions and come back to the point again.

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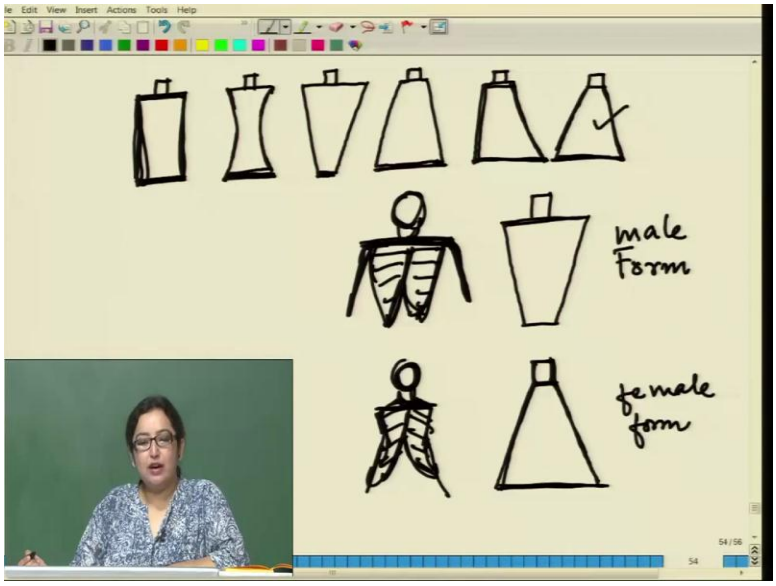

So, let us take an example of a form which is like this. Perhaps, it is a bottle, another form with slight variation, another form trapezoidal, there can be another bottle like formation. So, all these forms belong to the same family, because of their shapes which are analogous. But, they have different characteristic, you may say that this particular form is a male form and this particular form is a female form with a reference that this particular form resembles a male torso and this form will resemble a female torso.

So, here the shoulder path is wider than this, so by those similarities by those associations, we can always recognize a form as a male form and another one as a female

form. There are many other examples that does not really have much of direction, we cannot define them, but still that is how we understand them.

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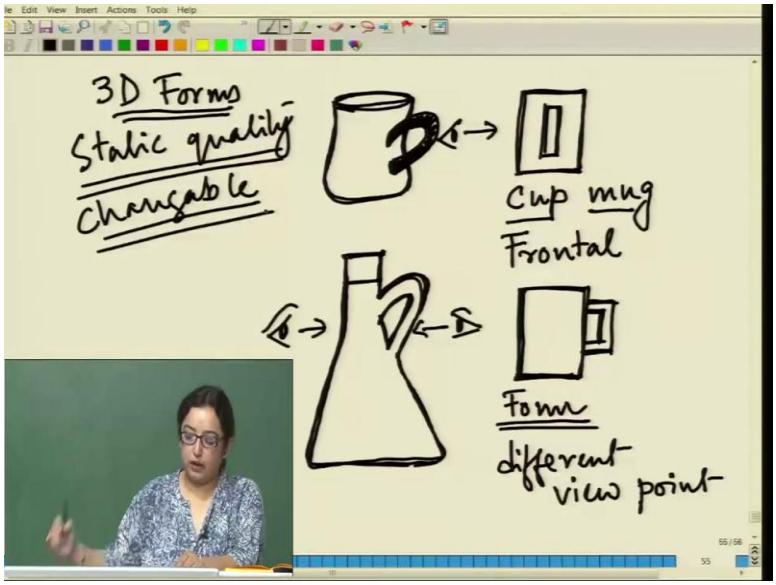

Let us look at forms which are symmetrical from one particular view and asymmetrical from another angle. For example, this is a form with a handle, it is a cup or a mug that is frontal. So, the moment I see it from another direction I will see it differently, so for me this is going to be the same cup viewed from a different angle, the symmetry will be totally removed what will see is a form in asymmetric.

So, this form will be viewed from a different angle or a different view point, there are products with a symmetry. So, if we say that this is one bottle trying which is asymmetrical in it is shape, we can just change our viewpoint and see it from this order or even from this direction and they will start looking symmetrical. So, that is how the static forms behave, an asymmetrical form has a sense of moving quality, it is more dynamic that the symmetrical form, but a form can be also looking different from different angles and that is applicable for a 3D forms.

So, the static quality of a form is highly changeable, so in our next lecture we are going to find out how the static forms be given some kind of a dynamic look. So, what makes form more movable and we are going to talk about the different kind of movements, like the anticipated movements, there can be movements through repetition. And primarily we are going to explode how the use of line, the use of other elements may add

movement which is not a real physical movement, but a sense of movement, the illusion of movement to a form.