

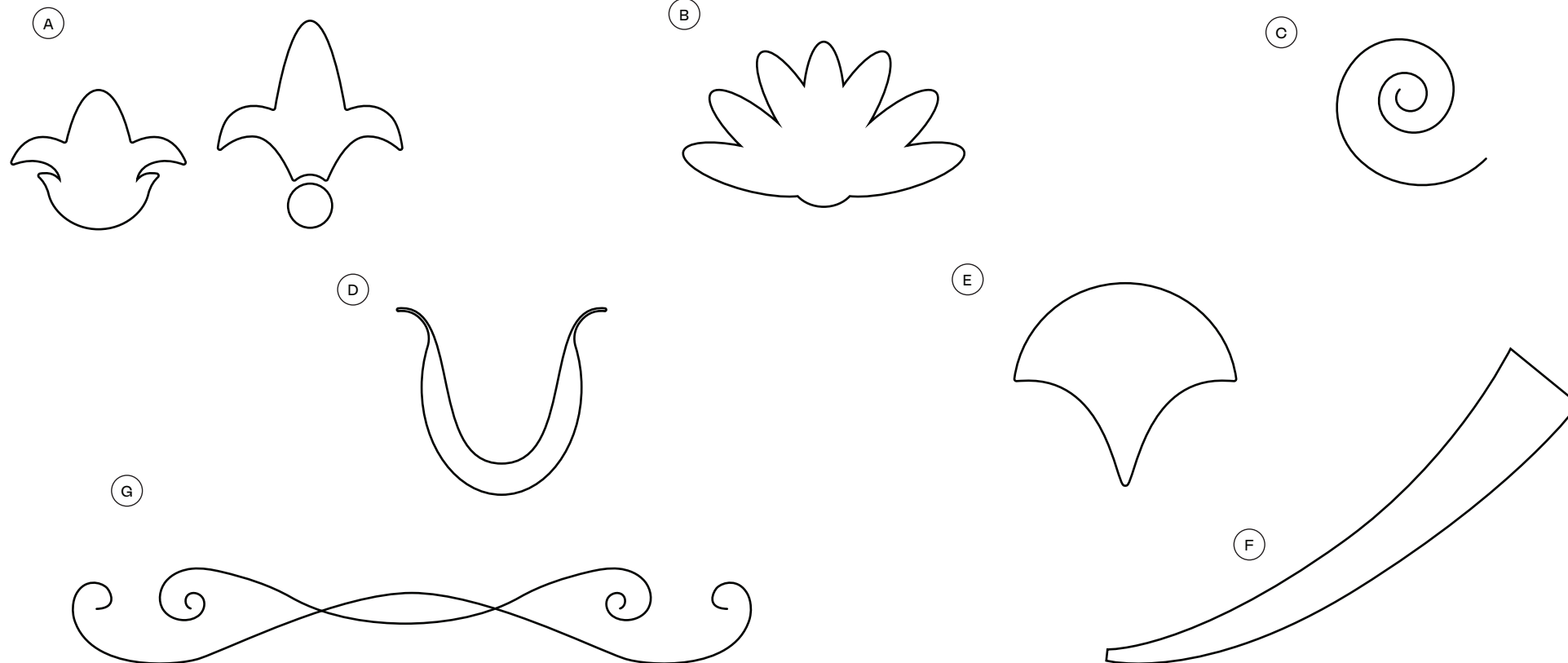
This is Art Club!

La Tène Style

Lesson by Shane Molntyre
With a Special Thanks to
NCAD, School of Education

A. Leafy Plant Forms
B. Lotus Flower
C. Spirals
D. Lyre

E. Petla
F. Trumpets
G. Scrolls



The La Tène style developed during the Iron age. The style can be identified by the use of some of the motifs on the opposite page. A motif is a decorative image or design, especially a repeated one forming a pattern. The La Tène style originated on continental Europe and came to Ireland with the arrival of the Celts. They used these designs to decorate their jewellery, weapons and ornaments.

There is a big contrast between the style of metal work artefacts from the Bronze age and the Iron age. During the Bronze age the decoration on artefacts was simple geometric patterns and shapes. Examples include circles, triangles, lozenges and straight lines. During the Iron age the decoration was based on real world objects such as trumpets, plant shapes, leaves and vine motifs.