

Reductive Sculpture: **Foam Figure**

Henry Moore's work: is largely based on the female figure. Moore abstracts the female figure and exaggerates torso and limbs through thickening, lengthening, or increasing the limbs' scale to create a form with heavy solidity. Elegant, narrow lines in the neck and head, as seen in *Reclining Figure* below, provide a contrast with figure's thick torso and legs. Body parts are frequently pierced through (not shown) creating not only visual interest but separation between figure elements.



Reclining Figure, No. 4, 1954–55
Henry Moore
Bronze

Organic Shapes in Moore's works: Moore's abstract pieces not recognizable as the human figure still contain the **solidity** and **complexity** of the **human form**. Shapes curve, join, and undulate.



Large Slow Form, 1963-68
Henry Moore
Bronze

Assignment: After studying the work of Henry Moore, create a preliminary sketch for a reductive sculpture that incorporates organic shape. Consider the role positive and negative space plays in a three-dimensional object—both spaces change according to the angle at which the sculpture is viewed. Create an organic form with shapes that curve and seemingly join or separate with other shapes. Employ Moore’s technique of piercing the form to separate elements. **Remember: this is a reductive carving. What is taken away cannot be added back. Work slowly.**

Evaluation

Studies 1 2 3 4

(Develop a plan in your sketchbook. Consider positive and negative space and organic shapes—this can be abstract in nature or loosely based on the human figure. Use source material for figure studies)

Proportion 1 2 3 4

(Size and shape of elements is appropriate. Convincing scale is achieved)

Detail 1 2 3 4

(The sculpture is fully developed; elements curve, join, or separate from/with other elements)

Technical Use of Foam 1 2 3 4

(Evidence of care during reductive carving, use of tools, manipulation of material)

Finished Sculpture 1 2 3 4

(Sculpture is eye-catching, original, and creative)

Artist Statement 1 2 3 4

(Artist is able to describe the concept, inspiration, process, challenges, design concepts, and critique the piece)

Total /28