

How to Analyse an Artwork

As a class group, in pairs or individually, choose an artwork from the exhibition and analyse it.



1. DESCRIPTION

- 1.a) Exhibition: _____
 1.b) Artist: _____
 1.c) Artwork title: _____
 1.d) Date created: _____ 1.e) Medium: _____



2. SUBJECT

2.a) Circle the **category** of the artwork:

- Painting Drawing Sculpture Photography
 Digital/New Media Installation Printmaking

2.b) What is the subject **genre** of the artwork? _____

Hint: Portrait, Figure, Landscape, Seascape, Cityscape, Still life, Interior, Conceptual

2.c) Write a sentence describing the **subject matter** of the artwork.

This artwork _____

2.d) Does the image look **realistic** or is it **abstract**? Explain why?

3. ART ELEMENTS & PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

✓ Tick the box of the art element and principle of design which applies to the artwork. List as 3-5 adjectives (describing words) next to the element or principle to describe visually what the artwork looks like.

Hint: Pretend you were trying to explain the artwork to a blind person, how would you describe it?

Example: The lines are thick and wavy but have smooth brushstrokes.

ELEMENTS	
<input type="checkbox"/> Line	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Colour	
<input type="checkbox"/> Shape	
<input type="checkbox"/> Space	
<input type="checkbox"/> Form	

Name:

Grade:

UPPER PRIMARY/ LOWER SECONDARY WORKSHEET

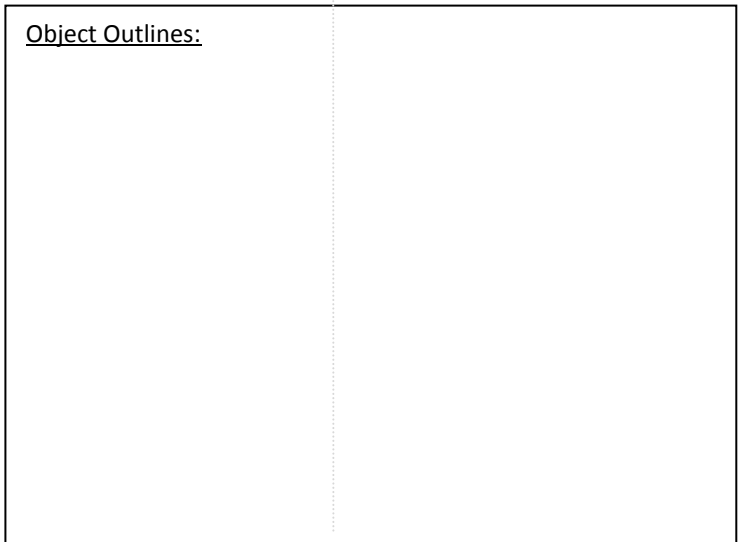
<input type="checkbox"/> Texture	
PRINCIPLES	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pattern	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scale	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contrast	
<input type="checkbox"/> Balance	
<input type="checkbox"/> Movement	

4. COMPOSITION

4.a) Draw in the box the outline or silhouette of the shape/s used in the artwork.

4.b) Is the artwork **balanced**?
(Circle) Is it **symmetrical** or **asymmetrical**?

Object Outlines:



EXTENSION

{LOWER SECONDARY}

5. ART HISTORY

5.a) What **art movement** is the artwork from? _____

5.b) What **context/s** (social, historical, political, religious, cultural) are present in the artwork? *E.g. Religious context - because the sculpture is of a Buddhist praying.*

5.c) Please explain your answer: (*Hint: Artist Statements usually identify the background behind the artwork*) _____

6. MESSAGE & MEANING

What **message** or **meaning** has the Artist tried to communicate in or through this artwork? _____

DISCUSSION

Talk about the artwork as a class, or tell your classmates the artwork you looked at.

- Why did you choose it?
- What do you like about it? What don't you like about it? Why?
- What did you find out about it? Did the artist communicate his message well?