

ANALYZING A WORK OF ART

WHEN ANALYZING A WORK OF ART, THE QUESTIONS OF WHAT YOU SEE, HOW IT WAS EXECUTED, AND WHY IT WAS DONE ARE ANSWERED. THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES SHOULD HELP YOU ANALYZE A WORK OF ART.

ALWAYS USE THE TITLE AS A CLUE TO INFORMATION.

1. COVER AND TITLE PAGE 10 POINTS

COVER CARVE AND INK AN ERASER TO MAKE A REPEAT IMAGE FOR YOUR COVER DESIGN

TITLE PAGE IDENTIFY THE NAME OF THE ARTIST, TITLE OF THE WORK, COUNTRY, DATE AND ART MOVEMENT.

2. ANALYSIS: HOW DO THE ELEMENTS AND PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN FUNCTION TO ORGANIZE THE PIECE? SELECT FIVE FROM THE LIST. 5 POINTS EACH FOR A TOTAL OF 25 POINTS

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN

- **LINE:** QUALITIES (ANGULAR, CURVED, WHAT DIRECTION...) CONNECTING WHAT?
- **SHAPE/Form:** FLAT OR VOLUMETRIC (2D OR 3D), GEOMETRIC, OR BIOMORPHIC, PLACEMENT
- **SPACE:** OVERLAPPING, NEGATIVE VS. POSITIVE, PERSPECTIVE
- **COLOR:** HUE, VALUE, INTENSITY, COLOR SCHEME, EMOTIONAL QUALITIES
- **VALUE:** LIGHTNESS OR DARKNESS (TINTS, TONES, SHADES), CONTRAST (HIGH KEY, LOW KEY, FULL CONTRAST)
- **TEXTURE:** SURFACE QUALITY, TYPE OF BRUSHSTROKE, TACTILE OR VISUAL

PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

- **RHYTHM/MOVEMENT:** REPETITION AND TENSION OF ELEMENTS TO LEAD EYE THROUGHOUT THE PIECE
- **BALANCE:** SYMMETRICAL OR ASYMMETRICAL (EQUAL OR EQUIVALENT)
- **EMPHASIS:** CENTER OF INTEREST ACHIEVED BY CONTRAST, ACTIVITY, OR MOVEMENT
- **CONTRAST:** VARIATION OF SHAPES, LINES, TEXTURES FOR VISUAL INTEREST
- **UNITY:** SAMENESS OF SHAPES, LINES, TEXTURES FOR A SENSE OF COHESIVENESS
- **PATTERN:** REPETITION OF ELEMENTS (RANDOM OR NETWORK)

3. INTERPRETATION: WHAT DOES THE PIECE SUGGEST TO YOU? 5 POINTS

- **WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT?**
RECORD YOUR FEELINGS, THOUGHTS, AND MOOD AS YOU VIEW THE WORK.
(PERHAPS WHAT DO YOU HEAR, SMELL, FEEL...ARE YOU COMFORTABLE WHEN YOU PLACE YOURSELF WITHIN THE WORK?)
- **WHAT DO YOU QUESTION IN THE PIECE? REFER TO AT LEAST TWO THINGS.**

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU REALIZE THAT INTERPRETATIONS WILL VARY FROM ONE PERSON TO ANOTHER, BUT YOU MUST SUBSTANTIATE YOUR VIEW