



Art and Design

Introducing critical studies

Your ability to analyse and evaluate works of art in a way that demonstrates that you understand what an artist is trying to express is vital to success in GCSE Art.

During this course you will explore different artist's use of materials, techniques and design ideas from many different cultures and periods in time. You must show that you understand these works of art through both your written and practical responses.

Use the answers to the questions below to help you structure an essay about the painting you are currently studying.

- What is the name of the artist?
- What is the title of your painting?
- When was it painted?
- What art movement/s was your artist connected to?
- What is the subject matter? What kind of art would you say this was?
- Describe the composition (arrangement) of your painting. What is in the foreground, middle ground and background?
- What kind of materials do you think the artist has used, for example oil paint, acrylic or watercolour?
- How would you describe the colours in this painting? For example bright, clashing, cold, warm, pastel, etc?
- What is the texture of the paint like? Has the artist applied the paint neatly and smoothly or in a lively and energetic way?
- What tools do you think that the artist has used to apply the paint?
- Do you feel that the artist is trying to provoke any particular emotions or feelings within you through this painting?
- Is it possible to guess how the artist was feeling when he/she produced this piece?
- What qualities/characteristics from your artists work do you hope to capture in your final piece based on their work?
- Do you now feel differently now about this piece after studying it in more detail?