



Visual Arts Virtual Learning

Painting II

“Looking Closer”

Artwork Critique

Grades 9-12

April 29th, 2020



Objective/Learning Target:

The student will increase his/her visual literacy by analyzing specific aspects of a provided painting.

Bell Ringer

"I often painted fragments of things because it seemed to make my statement as well as or better than the whole could."

--Georgia O'Keeffe

What do you think the artist meant with this quote, and how do you think this affected the way she painted?

What do you do in your paintings that makes them your own original work? How do your perceptions and perspectives influence your work?



Lesson/Activity

Because there cannot be an expectation that all students create an actual painted piece of artwork, this lesson gives students the opportunity to look at and analyze pieces that could have been presented in classes at school.

IF you have access to painting supplies at home, hopefully the examples shown in the lessons will be a source of inspiration for your own work.

Student Practice

Look at the provided example(s) & answer the following questions.

Additional Resources

painting example(s):

Painting Title: "Black Iris"

Artist: Georgia O'Keeffe

Style: Abstract Expressionism & Modernism





Reflection/Evaluation/Check for Understanding:

Composition

1. What objects, imagery, and/or Elements of Art are you seeing in the work?
2. Is there a main subject or focal point?
3. What are you seeing in the background or negative space areas?
4. What balance are you seeing in the work?
5. Are you seeing any of the other Principles of Design? Which ones?
6. Do you see an appearance of space or distance? If so, what has the painter done to create this look?
7. What else do you notice about how the painting has been composed? Has the painter used the Rule of Thirds, using odd numbers, etc.?

Color Usage

1. What colors are you seeing?
2. Do these colors help create a specific color scheme? If so, which one?
3. How has the painter used color intensity? In other words, are the colors saturated, dull, or a combination of both?
4. How has the painter used color value? Are colors predominantly light, dark, or a combination of both?



Style/Technique

1. How would you describe the appearance of the objects/imagery? Realistic? Cartoon-ish? A combination? Abstract? Objective or nonobjective?
2. What are you specifically seeing that led you to your answer for question number 1?
3. How would you describe how the paint has been applied (the technique)?
4. What does the technique add to the painting?

Content

1. What do you think is the intended content (message) of the painting?
2. How does the focal point (main subject) relate to the content?
3. How does the arrangement (including size) of objects/imagery relate to the content?
4. What else is happening in the composition that you think adds to the content?
5. Is the color scheme important to conveying the content? Why or why not?
6. How does the saturation (or de-saturation) of the colors relate to the content?
7. How does the style and technique of the painting help add to the content?

Reflection

1. How would you describe the overall mood, vibe, and energy of the painting?
2. In what ways do you feel the painting is successful?
3. Roughly how long do you think the work took to complete? Why?
4. Overall, do you like or dislike the painting? Please explain why.
5. What, if anything, could you incorporate from this painting into your own work?

Additional Examples of O’Keeffe’s work:





