

## AP Art History: Summer Reading

The AP Art History program focuses on art of the western world. However, other cultures are incorporated separately and within the western cultures throughout history, establishing their overall contribution to the art world/world. We include in our discussion the politics, religion, gender, function, relationship of artists to artist, artist to region, etc., of the work but we also look at the origins and development of the characteristics over time. Comparison of works of art and periods is an integral part of our course of study enabling students to fully understand the transitions and effects of art on the world and/or the world on art. We strive to show world history from the artists perspective and encourage further study at the college level as well as denoting problems and solutions of creating art by the artist for the art career oriented student.

In order to have a good basic background before entering the class and so you will be able to discuss the art, artists, periods, you will read "Art in Focus." By Mittler. The book will be furnished through Mrs. Ricker in room 401 because this book is not available in the library's. However, should you wish to have your own copy, it can be ordered on line at Border's Books or Barnes and Noble Books. The cost of your own copy would be \$87.80. I assume you will be borrowing from SRMHS.

The summer reading assignment will be due the first day of class and will count as 3 test grades.

The Assignment:

You will read :

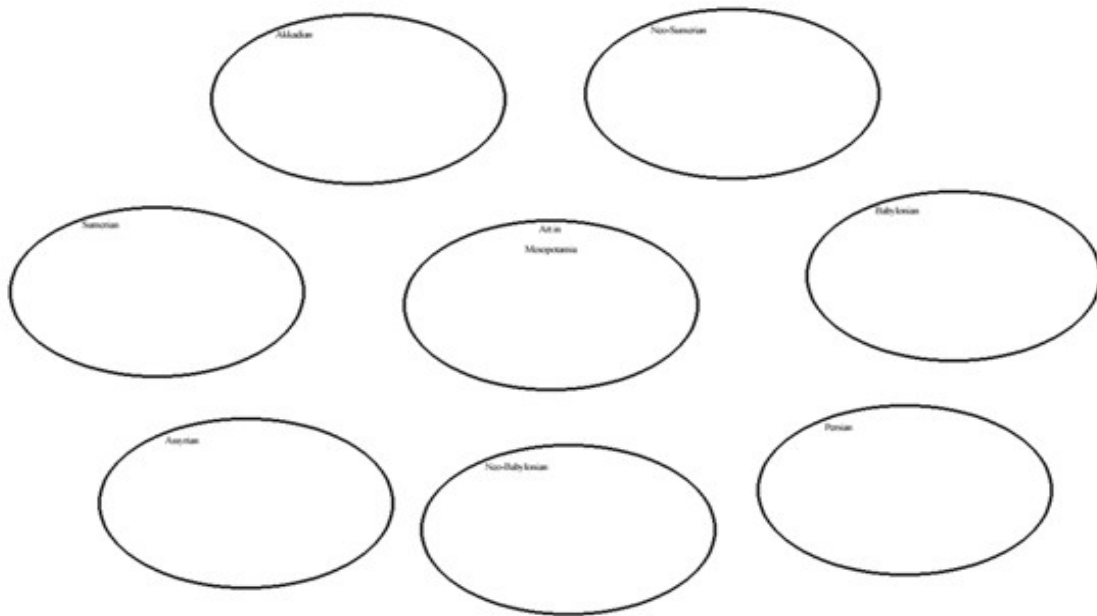
**Unit I: Chapters 1, 2, 4** and answer the following

1. What is the difference between fine art and applied art?
2. Why do cultures and artists create art and what are the benefits?
3. What is the importance of knowing the language of art?
4. Identify the elements and principles of art and define each.
5. Identify the 4 steps in the process of art criticism: What must you recognize/understand in each of the steps?

**Unit II: Chapters 6, 7** and answer the following

1. Explain the purpose of the earliest cave painting and the process for creating them
2. What characteristics are pertinent to the work?
3. What major civilizations were born during the Mesopotamian period and what was their contribution to civilization?
4. What characteristics emerged with the art work of the cultures of Mesopotamia

The diagram below may be helpful for questions 3 & 4



5. Discuss the 3 major historical periods of Egypt and the styles that emerged in painting, sculpture & architecture.
6. It has been stated that “the Egyptians were religious to extremes”. What is meant by this statement?
7. Looking back to the Mesopotamians what characteristics did the Egyptians and the Mesopotamians share?

**Unit 3: Chapter 8, 9** and answer the following

8. What were the major contributions of the Greeks to the political/social world and art?
9. In architecture three styles emerge. What were they and how do they define the architectural progression in Greece.
10. How did the Greek sculptures change from the Egyptian style figure to the contrapposto figure and common people?
11. How did the Roman’s invention of concrete effect the type of architecture that they built?
12. How did the architect solve the problem of the weight of the dome of the Pantheon?
13. Which Renaissance artist is buried in the Pantheon? (you will have to research on line for this one)

**Unit 4: Chapter 10, 11, 12** and answer the following

1. How did the Hindu and Buddhist religion influence the architecture of India?
2. What were the major Chinese dynasties and the important art works produced during each?
3. What were the Japanese art styles and what were the influences on each of the styles?
4. Discuss the influence of geography and beliefs on the art of Native American cultures.

5. Identify the contributions of the Olmec, the Maya, the Aztecs and the Incas to pre-Columbian art.
6. What types of medium were used in the African culture and what type and function were their figures?

**Unit 5: Chapter 13, 14, 15** and answer the following

1. What role did the catacombs play on early Christian art?
2. How did the artists use mosaics & symbolism to portray the Christian beliefs?
3. What was the impact of the Islamic Religion on art and the world during the 7<sup>th</sup>. Century?
4. Explain the three periods of the Middle Ages.
5. Explain the effects of Feudalism on society and art.
6. Discuss the new role of the portals to the Cathedrals of the Romanesque period.
7. Discuss the effect of the stained glass window on the Cathedrals of the Gothic period as opposed to the mosaic of the Early Christian/Byzantine Cathedral.
8. Towers become a major part of the Gothic Cathedral. The number of towers becomes 7. What was the reasoning for 7 towers? (you may have to search the internet for this one?)
9. The International style will have its effects even in modern types. What were the characteristics of the International Style?
10. What were the contributions made by Duccio and Giotto to painting?

**Unit 6: Chapter 16, 17, 18, 19, 20** and answer the following

1. How were linear perspective (one point perspective) and aerial perspective (atmospheric perspective) used to create depth & space and what early Renaissance artist is given credit for having used it?
2. Explain the influence of the Medici's on the art of the Renaissance.
3. Compare the symbolism of Raphael's School of Athens to catacomb painting from the Catacomb of Saints Peter and Marcellinus found on page 289. Use the Venn diagram as seen below for the comparison.

Characteristics unique to Raphael's School of Athens	Share Characteristics of the two art works	Characteristics unique to Catacomb of St. Peter & Marcellinus

4. Explain the slow change from Medieval art in Northern Europe as opposed to Italy.
5. What symbolism does Campin & Jan van Eyck bring to their work?
6. What were the effects of oil paint on the art world?
7. What were some of the sources of inspiration for the works of the Venetian painters?

8. What were the new characteristics of the mannerist painters?
9. Explain the 2 painting styles favored by N. European artists in the 16<sup>th</sup>. Century.
10. Explain the conflict that Bosch portrays in his work.
11. What was the Counter-Reformation and the role it played in the Baroque movement?
12. How did the role of light change from Berni to Caravaggio. Give specific examples to back up statements.
13. Why did the Baroque style have little impact on the Dutch art?
14. What was the style and subject matter of Spanish artists during the 16<sup>th</sup>. Century?
15. Explain the difference between Baroque and Rococo.
16. Identify the kind of paintings preferred in England and the reasons for the popularity.
17. What makes the art of Francisco Goya different from artists of the past?

**Unit 7: Chapter 21, 22, 23, 24** and answer the following

1. How did the growth of academies in France & England change the way artists were taught?
2. What was the Neoclassical style and what prompted the new interest in the classical?
3. Define Romanticism and the role of the hero as opposed to the role of the Greek hero.
4. What were the objectives of the Impressionists and describe the technique they developed to achieve the objectives?
5. Compare the painting styles of Cezanne, van Gogh and Gauguin: The Venn diagram is a good way to do this:

Cezanne characteristics	Van Gogh characteristics	Gauguin characteristics	Characteristics common to all 3

6. What brought about the interest in realism in America in the late 19<sup>th</sup>. Century?
7. Discuss the contributions African American artists made to the growth of American art.
8. Art of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is fast changing: Discuss the style & objectives of Les Fauves, Expressionism (include the German Der Blaue Reiter & Die Brucke), Cubism
9. Compare the socialists painting *Echo of a Scream* by David Alfaro Siqueiros with Francisco Goya's *Third of May*. Use the venn diagram:

Francisco Goya's <i>Third of May</i> unique characteristics	Common characteristics of the 2 paintings	David Siqueiro's <i>Echo of a Scream</i> unique

		characteristics

10. Discuss the importance of the Armory Show of 1913.
11. How did Louis Sullivan break with the past architecture to create a new/unique form of architectural style in the U.S.?
12. Please explain the characteristics of the styles of art listed below from the 20<sup>th</sup>. Century: Include painting, sculpture & architecture where applicable.
  - a. Dada
  - b. Surrealism
  - c. Fantasy
  - d. Regionalism
  - e. Abstract Expressionism
  - f. Pop
  - g. Op
  - h. Hard-Edge
  - i. Photo-Realism
  - j. Outsider art (you will need to look this up on the net)
13. How has technology impacted the art of the 20<sup>th</sup>./ 21<sup>st</sup>. century art?
14. Briefly describe (in one to two sentences each) the types of careers in art discussed.