

Chapter 1

The Power of Art

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The word sfumato _____.
- a. means “the soft mist of a fountain” in Italian
 - b. is observable in Leonardo da Vinci’s *Mona Lisa*
 - c. renders details hazy and unclear
 - d. incorporates low light that softens edges of a form
 - e. all of these are correct

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. While this is the correct definition of sfumato, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- b. Incorrect. While sfumato is present in the *Mona Lisa*, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- c. Incorrect. While sfumato does render details as hazy and unclear, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- d. Incorrect. While sfumato does incorporate low light that softens edges of a form, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- e. Correct. The literal meaning of sfumato in Italian is “the soft mist of a fountain.” The sfumato technique is observable in Leonardo da Vinci’s *Mona Lisa*, it renders details as hazy and unclear, and it incorporates low light that softens edges of a form.

2. The *Mona Lisa* ended up at the Louvre Museum in Paris because the painting was _____.
- a. purchased by the Louvre after it appeared in the *Da Vinci Code*
 - b. stolen from a private residence in Florence, Italy, as a spoil of war during the sixteenth-century raids by French troops led by King Charles
 - c. in the possession of Leonardo da Vinci, who died while in the residence of King Francis I, the King of France, so the painting became part of the royal art collection
 - d. donated to the Louvre by the Giocondo family, who had ties to French nobility
 - e. given to Napoleon because he had such an admiration for beautiful works of art

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. The *Mona Lisa* was not purchased by the Louvre. See LOOKING AT ART.
- b. Incorrect. The *Mona Lisa* was stolen from the Louvre in 1911, not from a private residence during the sixteenth century. See LOOKING AT ART.
- c. Correct. da Vinci, who was staying in a chateau as a guest of King Francis I, died of a stroke; the *Mona Lisa* then became part of the royal art collection. See LOOKING AT ART.
- d. Incorrect. The *Mona Lisa* was not donated to the Louvre by the Giocondo family. See LOOKING AT ART.
- e. Incorrect. The *Mona Lisa* was not given to Napoleon. See LOOKING AT ART.

3. The Japanese sculptural group the Amida Buddha reflects the tastes of its aristocratic patrons by ____.
- a. having gilded wood
 - b. being refined and aloof like a prince
 - c. containing slim, delicate, and ornate carvings
 - d. depicting the angels surrounding the Buddha like royal attendants
 - e. all of these are correct

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. While the rich material of gold reflects the refined tastes of the aristocrats, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- b. Incorrect. While the prince-like pose of the Buddha does reflect aristocratic tastes, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- c. Incorrect. While the ornate carvings do reflect the refined tastes of the aristocratic class, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- d. Incorrect. While the angels, which seem like royal attendants, do reflect aristocratic tastes, this is not the complete answer to this question. See LOOKING AT ART.
- e. Correct. The rich material of gold; the aloof prince-like quality of the sculpture, the ornate carvings, and the angels that seem like royal attendants all reflect the tastes of the aristocratic patrons. See LOOKING AT ART.

4. What subject in prehistoric cave art was rarely shown?

- a. humans
- b. bulls
- c. bison
- d. horses
- e. rhinoceroses

Analysis

- a. Correct. Humans were rarely subjects in prehistoric cave art.
- b. Incorrect. Bulls were a common subject for cave art. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- c. Incorrect. Bison were a common subject for cave art. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- d. Incorrect. Horses were a common subject for cave art. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- e. Incorrect. Rhinoceroses were a common subject for cave art. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.

5. The early prehistoric sculpture, *The Venus of Willendorf*, is believed to have been _____.

- a. an indication of wealth
- b. a fertility figure
- c. a warning for others to stay away
- d. story telling figures
- e. amulets to ward off evil spirits

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. This sculpture was not an indication of wealth. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- b. Correct. The emphasis of the belly, buttocks, breasts is a powerful image of the fertility of the earth mother. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- c. Incorrect. This sculpture was not a warning for others to stay away. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- d. Incorrect. This sculpture was not a story telling figure. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- e. Incorrect. This sculpture was not an amulet to ward off evil spirits. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.

6. What material is *Horse Effigy*, by Lakotan artist Joseph No Two Horns, made from?

- a. multi-media (including wood, leather, and horsehair)
- b. ivory
- c. bronze
- d. marble
- e. sandstone

Analysis

- a. Correct. Joseph No Two Horns used a number of different materials for this sculpture. See JOURNEYS TO THE SPIRIT WORLDS.
- b. Incorrect. Joseph No Two Horns used a number of different materials for this sculpture. See JOURNEYS TO THE SPIRIT WORLDS.
- c. Incorrect. Joseph No Two Horns used a number of different materials for this sculpture. See JOURNEYS TO THE SPIRIT WORLDS.
- d. Incorrect. Joseph No Two Horns used a number of different materials for this sculpture. See JOURNEYS TO THE SPIRIT WORLDS.
- e. Incorrect. Joseph No Two Horns used a number of different materials for this sculpture. See JOURNEYS TO THE SPIRIT WORLDS.

7. How are the “soaring vertical lines” of *Notre Dame Cathedral* intended to act upon the viewer?

- a. demonstrate the power of the architect
- b. emphasize royal French power
- c. visually symbolize the heavenly realm
- d. direct attention to narratives on the ceiling
- e. threaten with judgement

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Though the expertise of the architect was important, the verticality of the cathedral does not refer to them. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- b. Incorrect. Though politics were involved in the creation of cathedrals, the verticality has a religious significance. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- c. Correct. The verticality of the cathedral visually symbolizes the heavenly realm. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- d. Incorrect. Though visual narratives were common in cathedrals, they were typically not on the ceiling. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.
- e. Incorrect. Though cathedrals sometimes included scenes of judgement, the verticality does not signify judgement. See THE POWERS OF ART: BRINGING FAITH TO LIFE.

8. The art of any area of the world where people live or lived in a pre-industrial or pre-agricultural state is called _____.

- a. folk art
- b. tribal art
- c. rock art
- d. avant garde
- e. prehistoric art

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Artwork by untrained artists in rural areas is often referred to as folk art. See FOLK ART.
- b. Correct. Art from pre-industrial or pre-agricultural people groups is called tribal art. See THE POWER OF ART FOR TRIBAL PEOPLES.
- c. Incorrect. Rock art is a type of prehistoric artwork. See THE POWER OF ART FOR TRIBAL PEOPLES.
- d. Incorrect. Avant garde typically refers to innovative artworks from the modern period. See THE POWER OF ART FOR TRIBAL PEOPLES.
- e. Incorrect. Prehistoric art is art from the distant past, while tribal can still be made today. See THE POWER OF ART FOR TRIBAL PEOPLES.

9. The purpose of a portrait of a king was to _____.

- a. touch an emotional chord
- b. merely document his likeness for posterity
- c. shock and awe
- d. glorify his supreme power
- e. change the system of beliefs

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Royal portraits were not sentimental. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- b. Incorrect. Even when painters began to depict the likeness of the king in royal portraits, this was not their primary function. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- c. Incorrect. Some royal portraits could inspire awe, but this was not their primary function. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- d. Correct. Royal portraits were intended to glorify the king's supreme power. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- e. Incorrect. Royal portraits were not intended to change belief systems. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.

10. Futurism is a movement that celebrated _____.

- a. movement of time
- b. robotics
- c. progress
- d. power
- e. the rich history of art

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Futurism was about technology and progress, not merely the passage of time. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- b. Incorrect. Though futurists were interested in advances in technology, robotics was not of primary concern. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- c. Correct. Futurism celebrated progress in society. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- d. Incorrect. Though futurism became important to the powerful dictator, Mussolini, it celebrated progress not power. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- e. Incorrect. On the contrary, futurism was about overthrowing the past and embracing a fresh approach. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.

11. What is *The Liberation of Aunt Jemima*, by artist Betye Saar, commenting on?

- a. rampant consumerism
- b. the rise of technology
- c. the role of women in society
- d. the stereotyping of African-American women in advertising
- e. the food industry

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Though consumer products, such as the cutouts from Aunt Jemima pancake packages are involved, the artist uses these to make a different point. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- b. Incorrect. Technology is not an important aspect in this piece. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- c. Incorrect. Though the piece does comment on women in society, it makes an even more specific point about African American women. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- d. Correct. The piece comments on the stereotyping of African American women in advertising. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- e. Incorrect. The piece is concerned with the larger issue of stereotyping of African American women in advertising, not just advertisements from the food industry. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.

12. Maya Lin called the concept of her design of the *Vietnam Veterans Memorial* _____.

- a. “a black gash of shame”
- b. “trite”
- c. “a blank canvas”
- d. “a visual poem”
- e. all of these are correct

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Critics of the memorial called it “a black gash of shame.” See CONTROVERSY OVER THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL.
- b. Incorrect. Maya Lin calls Frederick Hart’s sculpture “trite.” See CONTROVERSY OVER THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL.
- c. Incorrect. Frederick Hart calls Maya Lin’s memorial “a blank canvas.” See CONTROVERSY OVER THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL.
- d. Correct. Maya Lin considered her work to be a visual poem. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- e. Incorrect. Some of these phrases were used as criticisms of Maya Lin’s design. See CONTROVERSY OVER THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL.

13. What is not true concerning Ansel Adams?

- a. Adams was an environmental spokesman.
- b. Adams based his photographs on poems by William Blake.
- c. Adams was a leader of the Sierra Club.
- d. Adams photographed the grandeur of Yosemite National Park.
- e. Adams wrote ten books on photography techniques.

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Adams was an environmental spokesman. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- b. Correct. Adams did not base his photographs on poems by William Blake. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- c. Incorrect. Adams was a leader of the Sierra Club. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- d. Incorrect. Adams photographed the grandeur of Yosemite National Park. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- e. Incorrect. Adams wrote ten books on photography techniques. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.

14. Zhan Wang’s *Urban Landscape* is a comment on _____.

- a. increased dependence on technology
- b. the power of the government
- c. the ephemeral sensory quality of art in nature
- d. the mechanical disconnect of urbanization and Westernization
- e. memory of domestic private life

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. The piece undercuts the technologies used to build the modern city by using materials from a restaurant kitchen. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- b. Incorrect. The piece focuses on the effects of urbanization, not on governmental issues. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- c. Incorrect. This piece represents a cold, mechanical landscape very different from nature. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- d. Correct. This piece comments on the mechanical disconnect of urbanization and Westernization. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.
- e. Incorrect. The piece emphasizes the public, urban sphere not domestic private life. See ART REPRESENTS IDEALS.

15. An artist who used the power of art to be self-expressive and cathartic after being in a terrible accident was _____.

- a. Paul Klee
- b. Ansel Adams
- c. Frida Kahlo
- d. Grandma Moses
- e. Rachel Whiteread

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Paul Klee did not use the power of art to be self-expressive and cathartic after being in a terrible accident. See THE ARTIST AND THE ART.
- b. Incorrect. Ansel Adams did not use the power of art to be self-expressive and cathartic after being in a terrible accident. See THE ARTIST AND THE ART.
- c. Correct. Frida Kahlo used the power of art to be self-expressive and cathartic after being in a terrible accident. See THE ARTIST AND THE ART.
- d. Incorrect. Grandma Moses did not use the power of art to be self-expressive and cathartic after being in a terrible accident. See THE ARTIST AND THE ART.
- e. Incorrect. Rachel Whiteread did not use the power of art to be self-expressive and cathartic after being in a terrible accident. See THE ARTIST AND THE ART.

16. Marc Chagall's artwork combines the influence of modern art with _____.

- a. memories of a rural childhood in Russia
- b. the self-expressive qualities of self-portraits
- c. whimsy and playfulness of make-believe forms
- d. repetitive geometric patterns in a tactile surface
- e. folk art motifs

Analysis

- a. Correct. Chagall drew on his memories of a rural childhood in Russia to create his images of a magical land of love and wonder. See THE POWER OF ART FOR THE ARTIST.
- b. Incorrect. Though Chagall drew on his personal past for inspiration, the self-portrait was not an important model for him. See THE POWER OF ART FOR THE ARTIST.
- c. Incorrect. Chagall drew inspiration from memories of real places in his past. See THE POWER OF ART FOR THE ARTIST.
- d. Incorrect. Though Chagall did see Picasso's cubist style, this was not the direction his work took. See THE POWER OF ART FOR THE ARTIST.
- e. Incorrect. Chagall drew on his childhood memories of rural Russia, not generic folk art motifs. See THE POWER OF ART FOR THE ARTIST.

17. Another word for folk art is _____.

- a. avant garde
- b. impressionism
- c. naïve art
- d. decorative art
- e. conceptual art

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. Avant garde typically refers to innovative artists of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. See FOLK ART.
- b. Incorrect. Impressionism was a movement in the late nineteenth century. See FOLK ART.
- c. Correct. Naïve art is another term for folk art. See FOLK ART.
- d. Incorrect. Though folk art can be decorative, not all decorative art is folk art. See FOLK ART.
- e. Incorrect. Conceptual art is a type of art that focuses on the concepts in artwork. Folk art is not a concept driven style of art. See FOLK ART.

18. Jewelry and woven rugs are considered _____.

- a. crafts
- b. decorative arts
- c. functional objects
- d. applied art
- e. all of these are correct

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. While jewelry and woven rugs are considered crafts, this is not the complete answer to this question. See DEFINING ART.
- b. Incorrect. While jewelry and woven rugs are considered decorative arts, this is not the complete answer to this question. See DEFINING ART.
- c. Incorrect. While jewelry and woven rugs are considered functional objects, this is not the complete answer to this question. See DEFINING ART.
- d. Incorrect. While jewelry and woven rugs are considered applied art, this is not the complete answer to this question. See DEFINING ART.
- e. Correct. Jewelry and woven rugs are types of craft, decorative art, functional objects, and applied art. See DEFINING ART.

19. What influences can be seen in Nick Cave's *Soundsuits*?

- a. African ceremonies
- b. traditional handiwork
- c. Mardi Gras costumes
- d. high fashion
- e. all of these are correct

Analysis

- a. Incorrect. While African ceremonies did influence Nick Cave, this is not the complete answer to this question. See NICK CAVE: THE WORLD AND HIS PALETTE.
- b. Incorrect. While traditional handiwork did influence Nick Cave, this is not the complete answer to this question. See NICK CAVE: THE WORLD AND HIS PALETTE.
- c. Incorrect. While Mardi Gras costumes did influence Nick Cave, this is not the complete answer to this question. See NICK CAVE: THE WORLD AND HIS PALETTE.
- d. Incorrect. While high fashion did influence Nick Cave, this is not the complete answer to this question. See NICK CAVE: THE WORLD AND HIS PALETTE.
- e. Correct. Nick Cave was influenced by African ceremonies, traditional handiwork, Mardi Gras costumes, and high fashion in his *Soundsuits*. See NICK CAVE: THE WORLD AND HIS PALETTE.

20. The studio in which Andy Warhol produced work was known as “The _____.”
- Garage
 - Penthouse
 - Factory
 - Homestead
 - Crib

Analysis

- Incorrect. While Warhol did allude to a mechanical type of art production, he did not choose this name. See DEFINING ART.
- Incorrect. While Warhol’s lifestyle is sometimes associated with opulence, he did not call his studio The Penthouse. See DEFINING ART.
- Correct. Warhol alludes to the mass production of goods by calling his studio The Factory. See DEFINING ART.
- Incorrect. Warhol did not call his studio The Homestead. See DEFINING ART.
- Incorrect. Warhol did not call his studio The Crib. See DEFINING ART.

SHORT ANSWER

- What is the difference between a National Treasure and an Important Cultural Property?
- How did the Greeks balance the real with the ideal in their sculptures?
- What is the first step in appreciating art?
- What was the crucial Renaissance idea that Leonardo da Vinci’s art works exemplified?
- What is the difference between fine arts and applied arts?

ESSAY

- Discuss the purpose and usage of masks. Cite a specific cultural example in your discussion.
- Compare and contrast Phoenix Hall in Japan with Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. Discuss the relationship of the visual expression with the spiritual significance.
- Compare and contrast *La Loge* by Pierre Auguste Renoir with *Woman and Bicycle* by Willem de Kooning. Address the concept of beauty in your response.
- Discuss the use of the Leonardo da Vinci’s iconic work *Mona Lisa* in Marcel Duchamp’s *L.H.O.O.Q.* and Andy Warhol’s *30 Are Better Than One (Mona Lisa)*. What were the intentions of Duchamp and Warhol in using the famous portrait?
- Compare/contrast Maya Lin’s *Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial* with Frederick Hart’s *Statue for Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial*. Which sculpture better meets the needs of the patrons? Why?

