

Name

Class

Date

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Chapter 1: Understanding Art

Multiple Choice

1. The word *art* encompasses many meanings, including process. Which of the following is considered an artistic process?

- a. A tapestry
- b. Human capacity
- c. Sculpting
- d. A building
- e. Memorization

ANSWER:

c

DIFFICULTY:

comprehension

2. _____ generally refers to distinctive characteristics of art and architecture that are common to a culture, era, or to a group of artists working at the same time or toward a common artistic goal.

- a. Content
- b. Form
- c. Style
- d. Creativity
- e. Context

ANSWER:

c

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

3. The form of an artwork includes all of the elements that make up the composition **except** _____.

- a. texture
- b. balance
- c. color
- d. subject matter
- e. three dimensionality

ANSWER:

d

DIFFICULTY:

comprehension

4. The _____ refers to a work's array of intangible aspects: the emotional, intellectual, psychological, symbolic elements.

- a. content
- b. composition
- c. style
- d. form
- e. design

ANSWER:

a

DIFFICULTY:

comprehension

5. _____ is the study of the themes and symbols in the visual arts: the figures and images that lend works their underlying meanings.

- a. Content

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- b. Humanism
- c. Narrative
- d. Iconography
- e. Surrealism

ANSWER:

d

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

6. The underlying symbolism in an artist's depiction of an elderly man stooped over amongst leafless, snow-covered trees in the depths of winter is most likely which of the following?

- a. The man is still in the prime of life.
- b. The man is waiting for help.
- c. It is the holiday season.
- d. The man enjoys the snow.
- e. The man is approaching death.

ANSWER:

e

DIFFICULTY:

application

7. Bronzino's complex allegory *Venus, Cupid, Folly, and Time* offers up such an iconographic puzzle that there is little doubt that he intended to leave the viewer with a sense of _____.

- a. joy
- b. fascination
- c. ambiguity
- d. chaos
- e. sadness

ANSWER:

c

DIFFICULTY:

comprehension

8. One of the best ways to illustrate stylistic differences between works of art is to choose several works that have a _____.

- a. similar size
- b. common form
- c. common context
- d. common composition
- e. common theme

ANSWER:

e

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

9. For most of the history of art, the _____ is recognizable or at least reflects some sort of visual experience.

- a. content
- b. humanism
- c. narrative
- d. iconography
- e. subject

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ANSWER: e
DIFFICULTY: knowledge

10. _____ is often a key component of a work's content, even if its meaning is unapparent or indecipherable to a viewer.

- a. Content
- b. Humanism
- c. Narrative
- d. Iconography
- e. Symbolism

ANSWER: e
DIFFICULTY: knowledge

11. _____ refers to the totality of a composition or design—the arrangement or organization of all of its visual elements.

- a. Form
- b. Humanism
- c. Narrative
- d. Iconography
- e. Subject

ANSWER: a
DIFFICULTY: knowledge

12. _____ describes the main point of interest in a work of art—one that captures and holds a viewer's attention.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos
- e. Unity

ANSWER: a
DIFFICULTY: knowledge

13. _____ is defined as a sense of oneness or cohesiveness. It has the effect of gathering the elements of a composition into a harmonious whole.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos
- e. Unity

ANSWER: e
DIFFICULTY: knowledge

14. _____ can be described as contrast and diversity. It is the counterpoint of unity. Juxtaposing various or

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contradictory elements in a composition adds interest, spontaneity, and the element of surprise.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos
- e. Unity

ANSWER:

c

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

15. _____ in a composition describes an attention-grabbing aspect that directs the viewer's eye to a particular area, giving it visual or conceptual dominance.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos
- e. Unity

ANSWER:

b

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

Subjective Short Answer

16. How do the subject, form, and content of works of art become evident?

ANSWER:

Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY:

comprehension

17. What are the principles of design?

ANSWER:

Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY:

comprehension

18. Abstract art is usually described as what?

ANSWER:

Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

19. What is the difference between a medium and a technique?

ANSWER:

Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

20. How does an artist create nonobjective art?

ANSWER:

Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY:

knowledge

Essay

21. Picasso stated, "Everyone wants to understand art. Why not try to understand the song of a bird? Why does one love the night, flowers, everything around one without trying to understand them? But in the case of painting, people have to

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understand.” Do you agree with this statement and why?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

22. Discuss the use of allegory and iconography in Bronzino’s *Venus, Cupid, Folly, and Time*. What do you think is meant by *The Exposure of Luxury*?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

23. Can the title of a work change its meaning for the viewer or make the artist’s meaning clearer? Provide two examples to illustrate your points.

ANSWER: Answers may vary

24. How do both medium and technique make Gnaw unique?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

25. Can photographs lie? Explain, using an example.

ANSWER: Answers may vary