ART Appreciation

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**ART APP Critical Analysis Essay: IMA Compare and Contrast**

*This writing assignment is meant to enhance your understanding of class vocabulary, as well as demonstrate your ability to research and form in-depth educated opinions when discussing a work of art.*

This project counts for a major part of your grade. You MUST visit the IMA (4000 Michigan Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46208 (317) 923-1331 to complete the project. If you do not have a ride, we will announce in class and try to find one for you. You can bring in your ticket, or you can email a picture of yourself at the IMA. All Marion county students are eligible for free admission. Take your student ID to the registration desk and ask.

Hours:

Monday - closed

Tuesday 11 am-5 pm

Wednesday 11 am-5 pm

Thursday 11 am-9 pm

Friday 11 am-5 pm

Saturday 11 am-5 pm

Sunday noon-5 pm

Visit the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA), and choose an artwork that you find interesting.

Write an essay (3-4 double spaced pages using 12 point font). Include a title page and a works cited page. You will need to explore the formal treatment (see the *Gathering Information* template) and iconography of the work. Your essay should address how artistic devices contribute to your understanding of the works meaning or artistic significance. (Use the first few chapters of your textbook for vocabulary.)

**SOURCES:** You must use viable sources. Such sources include, Oxford Art online database, ARTSTOR, MyUINDY library and DATABASE, ARTCHIVE, and other educational or museum sites.

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* **TITLE PAGE:** Please title your paper with the name of the artwork you have chosen. Make sure to **always** italicize titles of artworks. Your title page will also include your name, my name, the date and the class you are in: Art Appreciation
* **Introduction:** Introduce the artwork you have chosen. Your introduction will state where you observed the artwork (museum). You will want to introduce the reader to your overall experience at the IMA. Your introduction will need a **thesis statement** that you will recap in your conclusion. What do you want to tell people the most about this artist or artwork? Example: Hopper’s work often explores themes of loneliness, which can specifically be seen within this piece. - Then, the rest of the paper will focus on explaining that statement.
* Discuss the **FORMAL PROPERTIES** of your selection- size, materials, technique, color, and any other details about its physical attributes. Don’t forget to tell whether the artwork is a painting, sculpture, print, architecture, installation, video media, drawing, photograph, etc…
* **ARTIST:** Please include a few brief words about the artists involvement in any specific style (associated with the image you chose) as well as his/her contribution to the art movement and style- **not an entire biography.**
* Please provide the **CONTEXT** of the work of art- its culture of origin, time period or art movement, religion if applicable and artist information if available.
* Be sure to **DESCRIBE** the look of the artwork in your own words as much as possible. Be specific, as though you were explaining it over the phone to someone who couldn’t see it. **Classify the work;** is it Representational, Abstract, or Nonrepresentational? What is the subject matter and/or the content of the work of art? Also, **analyze** the work of art. Artists don’t generally emphasize all the elements of art equally. Use the provided *Gathering Information* template to collect information on the elements and principles of art. If the artist emphasizes SCALE (principle of design), then talk about scale, etc. Discuss the artist(s) intent for the artwork. Does the artist achieve his/her intent? Does the artwork visually explain what it was intended to? Refer back to chapter one where the text discusses the roles of artists to help with your **judgment.**
* Analyze your work of art for any **SYMBOLISM** or **Iconography**. Research should guide you in this if you select a work of art from a time or cultural we haven’t studied yet.
* It may be interesting to provide a **HISTORY** of the work itself and any restoration efforts. (If known)
* Next, please tell the reader what inspired you to pick this work. **Why did it speak to you?** The look? A religious or emotional connection? Travel experience? You tell me.
* **CONCLUSION:** the conclusion should summarize and restate your thesis statement. Consider an additional leading thought to encourage the reader to want more information beyond these images.

**Share a copy of your Critical Analysis Essay with me before class (5:59pm) on the due date. You may turn in a paper copy of** your Critical Analysis Essay at the beginning of class. Choose which format (electronic copy or paper copy) works best for you. Research writing assignments will *NOT* be accepted after the due date.

* Feel free to take the following pages with you to the IMA for information gathering. Take a photo of the works for your reference, just in case it is unavailable online.
* Consider using the following 4 steps of the Critical Method to evaluate the artworks.
  + Description
    - Non-objective, strictly description
    - Include subject matter and medium/material/technique.
  + Analysis
    - Use elements and principles.
    - Explain composition.
  + Interpretation
    - After description and analysis, how would you interpret the piece?
    - Make this like a persuasive argument.
  + Judgment
    - How do you feel about the piece and why?
    - Use emotive words….senses (feel, hear, smell)

**Researching a Work of Art at the IMA**

***Gathering the Information***

**Fill this out in PENCIL while you are observing the artwork at the IMA**

Title of work: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Artist (s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where is the artist from? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any influences or styles associated with this artist? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Additional background info on work:

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Critical Analysis of the Work

Subject Matter of the work:

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Content:

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Shape/Form:

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Color:

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Texture:

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Pattern:

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Space: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Balance:

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Emphasis and Focal Point:

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Scale and Proportion:

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Repetition and Rhythm:

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Unity and Variety:

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