

Evaluating contemporary art at the Gallery

To help you interpret a work of art, answer the following sequence of questions in your visual diary.
Remember to support any statements with supporting evidence by referring to something you can see in the artwork.
Use complete sentences.

1. Identify a work of art that you have enjoyed looking at.

List the artist's name, artwork title and year the work was created.

Select from the list below the term that best describe the type of artwork:

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> painting | <input type="checkbox"/> photograph | <input type="checkbox"/> video |
| <input type="checkbox"/> watercolour | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> drawing | <input type="checkbox"/> Installation | _____ |

What is the title of the exhibition this artwork is in?

2. How large is the artwork relationship to the human figure?

How does it compare to the other artworks or objects beside it?

Is the artwork displayed or lit in any particular way?

Do you need to stand or move in any particular way to view the work?

Are there any other constraints on the viewer or is there an element of interactivity?

3. What materials or media have been utilised in the creation of this artwork?

Describe the methods and techniques that have been applied?

4. Sketch the artwork to help you notice more details in the work.

Annotate your drawing with your observations.

5. List the things you can see in the artwork.

For example; people, buildings, animals, shapes, colours or shapes.

What are they doing? Do they seem to suggest a story? Describe it.

6. How have the art elements been applied in this artwork? Comment on at least two. Consider line, shape, space, texture, colour, form, tone, movement, surface, composition or sound.
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7. How have the art principles been applied to this artwork?

Comment on at least two.

Consider unity, balance, harmony, distortion, juxtaposition, contrast, space, hierarchy, level, scale, symmetry/asymmetry, proportion, cropping, repetition, relationships, pattern, sequence, emphasis, movement, rhythm, diminution, variation or tension.

8. What is the overall mood or emotional intent of the artwork?

How does it make you feel? What aspects of the artwork cause you to feel this way?

9. Does this artwork refer to or remind you of any other artworks, art movements or artists that you know about? Has the artist appropriated anything from another source?
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10. What subjects, ideas or themes do you think the artist might be trying to raise in the artwork?

What might the artist's point of view be? What makes you think that?

Do you have an opinion about it?

11. Do some research online about the artist to see what else you can learn about their art practice.

Do they have a website? Is this artwork similar or different to other work they have made?

Try to describe the difference. Write a bibliography.
