



AP[®] Art History 2004 Sample Student Responses

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61

ART HISTORY
SECTION II—Part A
Time—60 minutes
7 Questions

The questions in this part of the examination are based on slides. Each question is separately timed and each slide or set of slides will be shown only for the length of time indicated after the question. **YOU ARE TO ANSWER EACH QUESTION IN THE SPACE PROVIDED.**

Responses that **answer the question directly** will receive higher scores than those that simply list characteristics or include irrelevant points. Take a moment to read the question carefully before formulating your answer.

Note: For those questions involving two slides, when you are not asked specifically to name the artists and/or titles of the works, you may refer to the work on the left as (L) and the work on the right as (R).

This examination uses the chronological designations B.C.E. (before the common era) and C.E. (common era). These labels correspond to B.C. (before Christ) and A.D. (anno Domini), which are used in some art history textbooks.

1. The following statement, made by Mary Cassatt in 1904, refers to her 1879 collaboration with the artistic group with which she is most closely associated.

“Our . . . exhibition . . . was a protest against official exhibitions and not a grouping of artists with the same tendencies”

To which group of artists does Cassatt’s remark pertain? Referring to the Cassatt work shown and a work by one other artist in this group, defend her claim that these artists did not have the same stylistic tendencies.
(5 minutes)

The group of artists that Mary Cassatt's remark pertains to are all the impressionistic artists like herself. Her claim that these artists did not have the same stylistic tendencies is true. The slide shows Cassatt's influence from Japanese techniques with her use of ~~straight~~ hard lines to break up the different values in her painting. Mary Cassatt was inspired from another painter from this time period; Degas. Although Cassatt was inspired

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

E2

A

by Degas, they had ~~two~~ very different styles of painting. For example, in "The Tub", Degas uses curved lines to show the human forms curvature. He also blends his colors together to form different hues. Mary Cassatt's lines are more rigid & her use of paint is almost monotonous. She tries to keep the color's intensity.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

A

11

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Cassatt is a member of the Impressionist movement, a group that stayed away from the classical school's teachings and took a more scientific approach to art. Cassatt's paintings are studies of light, ~~etc~~ studying how form is rendered through the contrast of color, light, and shadow. Monet follows the same principles. His ~~work~~ work, even more than Cassatt's, abandons the notion of outlines to create forms and focuses on only the use of color.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

12

A

created at a certain time of day. Cassatt's pieces tend to focus on women or children, contrasting that of most of her contemporary artists.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.