



## AP<sup>®</sup> Art History 2004 Sample Student Responses

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# A

WWWW

4. Both works were painted in the 1760's by the same artist.

Identify the intellectual or philosophical movement most closely associated with these paintings. Discuss ways in which the content of the paintings expresses philosophical, social, or intellectual concerns of the period. (10 minutes)

Both of these paintings stem from the pervasive influence of the Enlightenment, the 18<sup>th</sup>-century ~~new~~ philosophical movement that spread through Europe with its revolutionary concepts of intellectualism, individualism, and progress. Both paintings seem to advertise the wonders of science and discovery, as intelligent and respectable men demonstrate intriguing experiments for groups of onlookers. The realistic depiction of the characters and their surroundings, full of accurate details and mathematical perspective, attempts to show the discussions in the rational spirit in which they are performed. During the Enlightenment, many people turned to ideas of equality and democracy, and correspondingly the people watching in the paintings are of many types, even women—although the paintings, like the Enlightenment, remain predominantly an affair of the middle and upper classes. The detailed scientific equipment shown reflects the intellectual expansion that came side-by-side with the philosophical aspects of the Enlightenment (which included a deep-seated belief in education) and that led to the Industrial Revolution. Meanwhile, ~~exist~~ philosophy was placing less emphasis on religion in intellectual thought, so that the half-supernatural light illuminates not a saint but an experimenter.

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# A

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Identify the intellectual or philosophical movement most closely associated with these paintings. Discuss ways in which the content of the paintings expresses philosophical, social, or intellectual concerns of the period.  
(10 minutes)

During the 1760's the scientific movement took place. These two pictures show 2 different scientific experiments. To the right is a painting depicting the test of a bird in an air pump, and the painting on the left depicts the study of the solar system. At the time artists, and the common people were very interested in intelled, philosophy, and science. The paintings show the seriousness of the studies, and ~~the~~ relates with the viewer, because it makes the viewer want to know more about what is going on. The subjects of the paintings look as if what is being done, has a large affect on them and they look as if they need to know more. During this time people were very concerned with education, and knowledge, and these paintings show that ~~a~~ a person can get involved, and ~~just~~ just how ~~much~~ interested people were. The books, and expressions various make show the interest, ~~and~~ as well does the note taking being done by other onlookers. Everybody in the pictures are involved and they are surrounded by objects notable to knowledge and learning.

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