



AP[®] Art History 2001 Sample Student Responses

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2. In whose honor was this monument erected? How do the style and content of the monument reflect its culture's social and political values? (10 minutes)

This monument was erected in 13 BCE in honor of the Emperor Augustus of Rome. The monument is designed to glorify the rule of Augustus and the peace he brought to the Roman Empire. This relief features the gods of prosperity and contented Romans gathering for public ceremonies.

R shows a detail of the monument. In it, children, dressed like young adults, participate along with their elders. The inclusion of children displays Roman interest in childhood and a new sense of naturalism.

Political values are represented in the monument's glorification of an emperor, by definition a non-democratic ruler. Democracy was not so important to the Romans that they would complain if an emperor brought them peace and prosperity, as Augustus did.

The Romans truly valued the secular, and thus the people depicted in R are not gods but rather ordinary Romans. Their inclusion shows the Roman interest in the practical over the spiritual.

2. In whose honor was this monument erected? How do the style and content of the monument reflect its culture's social and political values? (10 minutes)

This monument was erected in honor of (Julius Caesar)
It shows the culture's social and political values of democracy in the fact that all persons are represented equally. The reliefs are of very tranquil scenes indicating stability, and are accompanied by decorative non-aggressive designs indicating harmony and happiness. This is the result of both a benevolent dictator and a limited democracy in which the people have partial governing of the people.