

Test Item File

Chapter 1 – Experiencing Art

Multiple Choice Questions

1. When first experiencing an unfamiliar work of art, start by asking questions about:
- a. expressive content, historical style, individual style.
 - b. patrons, function, and collocation.
 - c. historical significance and historical context.
 - d. composition, formal analysis, medium and technique.
 - e. all of these.

Answer: e

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2. The word “style” derives from *stylus*, that is:
- a. a Greek word for history.
 - b. Latin for writing instrument.
 - c. Egyptian for spiritual content.
 - d. all of these.
 - e. none of these.

Answer: b

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3. According to Mircea Eliade, within traditional societies objects such as the Bwa mask acquire meaning because they participate in:
- a. a ritual that links seasonal cycles to the cosmos.
 - b. the inter-tribal warfare.
 - c. the blessing of a new building.
 - d. all of these.
 - e. none of these.

Answer: a

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4. In Guo Xi's painting *Early Spring*, despite the curvilinear and diagonal elements, the work has an axial composition because:

- a. of the primary color scheme.
- b. of its circular format.
- c. the mountain dominates.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: c

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5. Bernini's *Apollo and Daphne* emphasizes dramatic movement primarily because it:

- a. uses only strict verticals and horizontals.
- b. is composed on a diagonal axis.
- c. involves axial stability.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: b

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6. The most striking feature of Wright's Fallingwater is that the building's structure responds to:

- a. European building style.
- b. the Pittsburgh skyline.
- c. ancient material limitations.
- d. the site.
- e. all of these.

Answer: d

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7. Palladio's Villa Rotonda relates to its environment by:

- a. subtly integrating with it.
- b. dominating the site.
- c. becoming virtually invisible.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: b

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8. Controlled city designs, such as the Forbidden City in Beijing, imply:

- a. notions of utility within society.
- b. a centralized authority.
- c. notions of efficiency.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: d

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9. "Sculpture in the round" is sculpture that is:

- a. finished on all sides.
- b. part of a wall.
- c. meant to be viewed from one vantage point.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: a

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10. Daniel Chester French's *Minuteman* is animated by a suggested sense of movement created by the contrast of the vertical axis with the:

- a. horizontals of the base.
- b. cantilever of the hat.
- c. diagonals of right leg and musket.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: c

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11. To properly understand the Bwa mask *Bird of the Night* as a sculptural form, we must also consider:

- a. the spiritual context.
- b. the participation of the onlookers in the ritual.
- c. the dynamic context.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: d

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12. Raphael's *Philosophy* is illusionistic; this means that the objects represented:

- a. appear to exist within actual space.
- b. seem to be weighty.
- c. seem to be tangible.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: d

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13. In *Philosophy* Raphael creates his illusion of three-dimensional reality by:

- a. overlapping.
- b. diminution.
- c. atmospheric perspective.
- d. scientific perspective.
- e. all of these.

Answer: e

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14. Viewing a horizontal hand scroll is unlike viewing a wall painting because the horizontal hand scroll is:

- a. not seen in its entirety at one time.
- b. like a journey involving time.
- c. meant to be viewed by one or few persons.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: d

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15. In northeast Nigeria Wodaabe women carve gourds into calabashes; most of these are treasured as:

- a. ceremonial possessions.
- b. utensils to hold porridge.
- c. vessels to carry milk.
- d. all of these.
- e. none of these.

Answer: a

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Fill-in-the-Blank Questions

16. The term used to describe how the appearance of a work of art is tied to the period during which it was created is _____.

Answer: historical style

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17. Works of art from the same historical period and culture often share similar _____ characteristics.

Answer: visual

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18. In Bernini's *Apollo and Daphne*, the _____ is energized by the extension of the figures' limbs and the sculptural form.

Answer: surrounding space

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19. The patron for Bernini's *Apollo and Daphne* was _____.

Answer: Cardinal Borghese

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20. The design of the Katsura Imperial Villa was inspired by the tenets of Zen Buddhism to create an integration of the building with _____.

Answer: its environment

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21. The rigid geometric layout visible at the Forbidden City in Beijing symbolized the relationships between heaven and earth, as well as between the ancestors and _____.

Answer: the emperor

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22. Davis Smith's *Cubi XIX* is nonrepresentational because it does not _____ actual figures or real objects.

Answer: imitate

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23. For a work such as the *Bird of the Night (Butterfly)* mask, a static presentation in a display case in a museum obscures its original use in _____.

Answer: a ritual

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24. The Bwa *Butterfly* mask, like certain works of contemporary art, is ephemeral; this means that it lasts _____.

Answer: only a short time

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25. In Raphael's *Philosophy*, the composition is arranged to emphasize the figures of _____ and _____.

Answer: Plato; Aristotle

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26. Because Mondrian's *Composition No. 8* leads us to the periphery without concentrating on any single area or element, the composition could be described as _____.

Answer: decentralized

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27. A painting technique that utilizes broad, free brushstrokes to define form is termed _____.

Answer: painterly

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28. The relative darkness or lightness of a color is called the _____.

Answer: value

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29. During certain periods artists formed _____, which were like trade unions and assured professional standards.

Answer: guilds

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30. Early in the 19th century, the concept was born of the artist as a member of the _____, who progressively leads society.

Answer: avant-garde

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True-False Questions

31. Upon encountering an unfamiliar artwork, one begins one's communication with the work by interpreting.

Answer: F

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32. The particular manner of visual expression created by an individual artist is known as individual style.

Answer: T

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33. The ancient Chinese Terra-cotta warrior proclaims instability and transience.

Answer: F

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34. In Palladio's Villa Rotonda, the arrangement is governed by symmetry and balance.

Answer: T

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35. A cantilever is a vertical projection into space.

Answer: F

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36. According to Xu Bing's interpretation of Chan Buddhist thought, the work of art is useless in itself.

Answer: T

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37. Mondrian's *Composition No. 8, 1939-42, with Red, Blue, and Yellow* reinforces the flatness of the picture plane.

Answer: T

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38. The level of richness or saturation of a color is termed value.

Answer: F

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39. The visual arts are a rare feature of human culture.

Answer: F

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40. When we study finished works of art, it is important to ignore the artist's creative process.

Answer: F

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Short Answer Questions

41. Iconology is the art-historical study that interprets what?

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42. What are the means of atmospheric perspective?

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43. Mondrian's *Composition No. 8* is orderly and serene; it shows his search for pictorial balance, and his search for what else?

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44. In Ancient Greece, how was the production of art viewed?

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45. In the 15th century, what transformed the traditional Western classification of the visual arts as manual or mechanical?

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Essay Questions

46. Describe how Frank Lloyd Wright achieves unity in Fallingwater despite the asymmetrical design?

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47. In the Chinese classical tradition among the aristocracy, discuss the three "perfections" and what they helped to preserve.

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