

Multiple Choice

1. The word *art* encompasses many meanings, including process. Which of the following is considered an artistic process?
- a. A tapestry
 - b. Human capacity
 - c. Sculpting
 - d. A building
 - e. Memorization

ANSWER: c

DIFFICULTY: comprehension

2. _____ generally refers to distinctive characteristics of art and architecture that are common to a culture, era, or to a group of artists working at the same time or toward a common artistic goal.
- a. Content
 - b. Form
 - c. Style
 - d. Creativity
 - e. Context

ANSWER: c

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

3. The form of an artwork includes all of the elements that make up the composition **except** _____.
- a. texture
 - b. balance
 - c. color
 - d. subject matter
 - e. three dimensionality

ANSWER: d

DIFFICULTY: comprehension

4. The _____ refers to a work's array of intangible aspects: the emotional, intellectual, psychological, symbolic elements.
- a. content
 - b. composition
 - c. style
 - d. form
 - e. design

ANSWER: a

DIFFICULTY: comprehension

5. _____ is the study of the themes and symbols in the visual arts: the figures and images that lend works their underlying meanings.
- a. Content
 - b. Humanism
 - c. Narrative
 - d. Iconography
 - e. Surrealism

ANSWER: d

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

6. The underlying symbolism in an artist's depiction of an elderly man stooped over amongst leafless, snow-covered trees in the depths of winter is most likely which of the following?

- a. The man is still in the prime of life.
- b. The man is waiting for help.
- c. It is the holiday season.
- d. The man enjoys the snow.
- e. The man is approaching death.

ANSWER: e

DIFFICULTY: application

7. Bronzino's complex allegory *Venus, Cupid, Folly, and Time* offers up such an iconographic puzzle that there is little doubt that he intended to leave the viewer with a sense of _____.

- a. joy
- b. fascination
- c. ambiguity
- d. chaos
- e. sadness

ANSWER: c

DIFFICULTY: comprehension

8. One of the best ways to illustrate stylistic differences between works of art is to choose several works that have a _____.

- a. similar size
- b. common form
- c. common context
- d. common composition
- e. common theme

ANSWER: e

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

9. For most of the history of art, the _____ is recognizable or at least reflects some sort of visual experience.

- a. content
- b. humanism
- c. narrative
- d. iconography
- e. subject

ANSWER: e

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

10. _____ is often a key component of a work's content, even if its meaning is unapparent or indecipherable to a viewer.

- a. Content
- b. Humanism
- c. Narrative
- d. Iconography
- e. Symbolism

ANSWER: e

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

11. _____ refers to the totality of a composition or design—the arrangement or organization of all of its visual elements.

- a. Form
- b. Humanism
- c. Narrative
- d. Iconography
- e. Subject

ANSWER: a

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

12. _____ describes the main point of interest in a work of art—one that captures and holds a viewer's attention.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos
- e. Unity

ANSWER: a

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

13. _____ is defined as a sense of oneness or cohesiveness. It has the effect of gathering the elements of a composition into a harmonious whole.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos
- e. Unity

ANSWER: e

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

14. _____ can be described as contrast and diversity. It is the counterpoint of unity. Juxtaposing various or contradictory elements in a composition adds interest, spontaneity, and the element of surprise.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos
- e. Unity

ANSWER: c

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

15. _____ in a composition describes an attention-grabbing aspect that directs the viewer's eye to a particular area, giving it visual or conceptual dominance.

- a. Focal point
- b. Emphasis
- c. Variety
- d. Chaos

e. Unity

ANSWER: b

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

Subjective Short Answer

16. How do the subject, form, and content of works of art become evident?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY: comprehension

17. What are the principles of design?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY: comprehension

18. Abstract art is usually described as what?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

19. What is the difference between a medium and a technique?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

20. How does an artist create nonobjective art?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

DIFFICULTY: knowledge

Essay

21. Picasso stated, “Everyone wants to understand art. Why not try to understand the song of a bird? Why does one love the night, flowers, everything around one without trying to understand them? But in the case of painting, people have to understand.” Do you agree with this statement and why?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

22. Discuss the use of allegory and iconography in Bronzino’s *Venus, Cupid, Folly, and Time*. What do you think is meant by *The Exposure of Luxury*?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

23. Can the title of a work change its meaning for the viewer or make the artist’s meaning clearer? Provide two examples to illustrate your points.

ANSWER: Answers may vary

24. How do both medium and technique make Gnaon unique?

ANSWER: Answers may vary

25. Can photographs lie? Explain, using an example.

ANSWER: Answers may vary