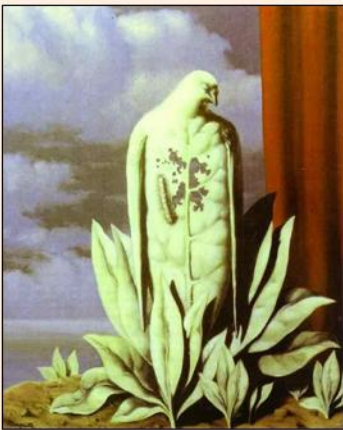


Studying Art

WHEN STUDYING ARTWORK THERE ARE FOUR MAIN THINGS TO CONSIDER:

The Content

- What is the image about? Try to describe what is in the picture.
- Who produced the work and when was it done? Is the painting realistic or abstract?
- Was anything happening in the world at that time that might have influenced the work?

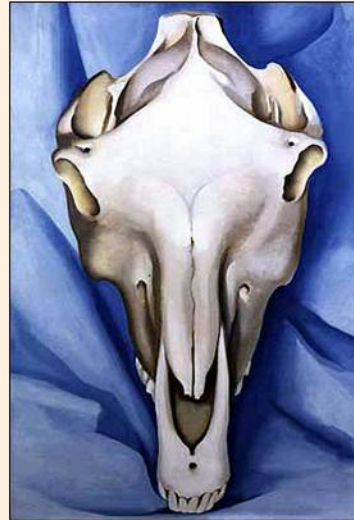


You will need to find out these facts from a book, a fact sheet or a website. This painting for example, was done just after the second world war. It shows the artists' sad feelings about the war.

René Magritte. The Flavour of Tears. 1948

FORMAL ELEMENTS

- Describe the way the artist uses lines, tones colours, shapes, textures and patterns to create effects.



This is the language of Art. It can be hard to learn, because many of the words are difficult. You need to use lots of describing words: adjectives. For example: The warm, bright blues in this picture contrast with the deathly feeling of the skull.

Georgia O'Keefe, Horse's Skull on Blue, 1930

HOW IT WAS DONE

- How was the piece produced?
- What was it made from?
- What techniques and processes were used?



Jackson Pollock Yellow Grey Black

All artists have their own style and technique. You should be able to understand something about the way they work.

FEELING & MOOD

- Does the work capture a mood, feeling or emotion?
- How has the artist created this mood?



Caravaggio—Judith beheading Holofernes

This is a personal opinion so you cannot really get it wrong. You have to say how the painting makes you feel

STUDYING ART

NOW YOU HAVE TO APPLY THIS KNOWLEDGE TO YOUR OWN WORK

TASK

Make a copy of part or all of a painting provided.

It does not have to look exactly the same as the picture so do not worry if yours looks different. It should be YOUR own version of the work.

Make sure you have put the title of the painting, the name of the artist and the year it was done.

Then, use the "STUDYING ART" sheet to help you write about the:

CONTENT- what is in the picture? What is it all about?

FORMAL ELEMENTS - how has the artist used lines, tones, colours & shapes etc

HOW IT WAS DONE- how has the work been made, produced.

FEELINGS & MOOD - has the artist tried to convey a certain mood or feeling.

Write about 30-50 words for each section.

Then: Write your own personal opinion of the painting. Do you like it? If not, why not? Write about how the artwork makes you feel.

STUDYING ART

This painting was produced by *(artists name)*
in the year..... It's size is.....The painting is of
(describe the painting)

The painting was produced in *(describe the materials used)*

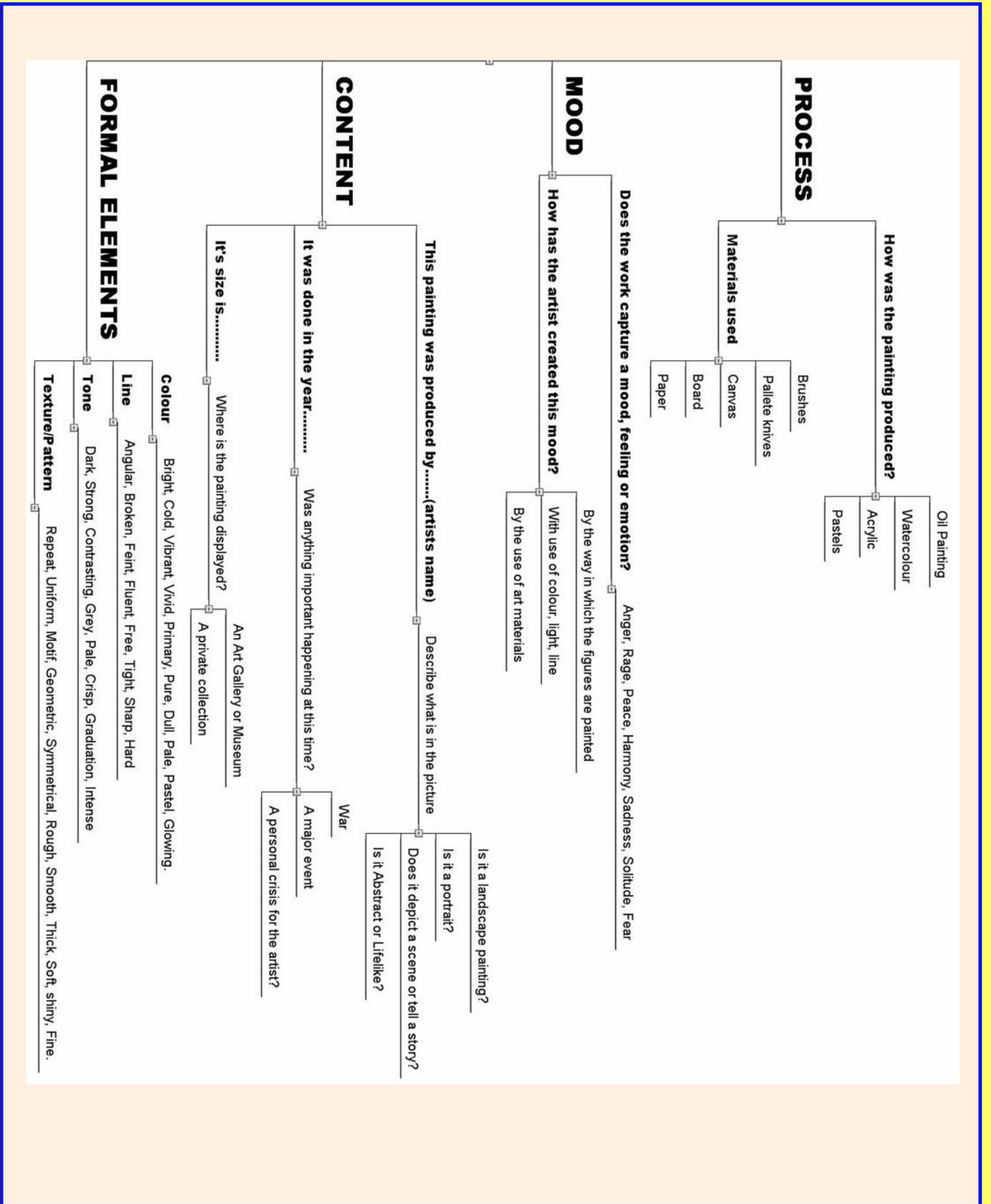
The mood in the painting isThis has been created
by.....

The artist has used the formal elements of.....They
have used these formal elements by.....

My personal opinion of this paintings is.....

The reason I think this is because.....

STUDYING ART



STUDYING ART

Colour

If you are trying to explain the use of **colour** in art, then you need to write sentences with lots of describing words.

1. **Colourful** paintings might be described using these words: **Bright, bold, strong, deep, glowing, warm, luminous, radiant, vivid, vibrant, primary, dazzling, intense, intense, powerful, pure.**

For example:

Bold brush strokes of **pure** yellow have been painted over an **intense** blue background.

2. **Dark** paintings might be described using these words: **Cold, dark, dull, grey, gloomy, murky, dim, sombre, deep, shadowy, contrasting.**

For example: A stormy scene has been created by **contrasting deep, dark** tones of **grey**, blue and violet with the lighter blues in the background.

Activity: In small groups, study a painting and try to think of some more adjectives to describe the artists use of Colour.

1. Try to make up a sentence of your own using some of these words.
2. Try to make a sentence using some words you have thought of yourself.
3. Look at another painting and try to think of how the artist has used COLOUR.

COLOUR

Bright

bold

pure

murky

strong

radiant

cold

dark

dull

gloomy

luminous

vibrant

vivid

intense

contrasting

deep

Studying Art

FORMAL ELEMENTS

LINE

If you are trying to explain the use of **LINE** in art, then you need to write sentences with lots of describing words.

1. **LINES** in paintings might be described using these words: **Fluent, free, confident, rounded, organic, rough, bold, feint, strong, powerful, angular, geometric, light, delicate.**

For example:

Strong, powerful lines have been painted onto **light, delicate** background marks.

Activity: In small groups, study a painting and try to think of some more adjectives to describe the artists use of line.

1. Try to make up a sentence of your own using some of these words.
2. Try to make a sentence using some words you have thought of yourself.
3. Look at another painting and try to think of how the artist has used LINE.

HELP: If you don't know what a word means, then ask! Or use a dictionary.

LINE

Fluent

free

confident

rounded

rough

organic

bold

feint

powerful

strong

geometric

angular

light

delicate

STUDYING ART

Pattern, Texture

If you are trying to explain the use of **Pattern & Texture** in art, then you need to write sentences with lots of describing words.

1. **Patterns** in paintings might be described using these words: **Plain, Repeat, Uniform, Geometric, Symmetric, Irregular, Natural, Simple, Motif.**

For example:

A **simple, geometric motif** is **repeated** into a **uniform** pattern.

2. **Textures** in paintings might be described using these words: **Rough, Smooth, Flat, Shiny, Matt, Splatter, Thick, Soft, Coarse, Fine, Hatching.**

For example:

The **rough, coarse texture** of the paint creates an interesting effect.

Activity: In small groups, study a painting and try to think of some more adjectives to describe the artists use of Pattern and Texture.

1. Try to make up a sentence of your own using some of these words.
2. Try to make a sentence using some words you have thought of yourself.
3. Look at another painting and try to think of how the artist has used Pattern and Texture.

PATTERN & TEXTURE

Repeat

Rough

Uniform

Smooth

Geometric

Shiny

Symmetric

Thick

Motif

Soft

Irregular

Coarse

Simple

Fine

STUDYING ART

TONE

If you are trying to explain the use of **TONE** in art, then you need to write sentences with lots of describing words. Tones are the light and dark areas of a painting. These can be colours or black and white.

1. **TONES** in paintings might be described using these words: **Bright, Dark, Faded, crisp, Smooth, Harsh, contrasting, Intense.**

For example:

*There is a strong **contrast** between the **light and dark tones** in the painting.*

Activity: In small groups, study a painting and try to think of some more adjectives to describe the artists use of Tone.

1. Try to make up a sentence of your own using some of these words.
2. Try to make a sentence using some words you have thought of yourself.
3. Look at another painting and try to think of how the artist has used TONE.

HELP: If you don't know what a word means, then ask! Or use a dictionary.

TONE

Bright

Dark

Faded

crisp

Smooth

Harsh

contrasting

Intense

sombre

grey

bleach

strong

powerful

feint