

# Analysing Artwork

## 1) Description

- This is the literal qualities of the artwork. Include the title, medium used, size and if possible where the original is located.
- Ask yourself: What is depicted in the piece? identify the setting/location, what are the main people and/or objects included in the piece (focal points)? is there an important figure/object in the work? etc.

## 2) Analysis

- The analysis builds on from the description and involves discussing the visual qualities of the artwork. Refer to what the artist has done to achieve certain effects. Relate this to the elements of art and principles of design and techniques used.
- Ask Yourself: What has the artist done to achieve certain effects? and what did the artist use? consider the composition of the piece. This is where you need to use the elements of art and principles of design. You need sufficated arts language.

## 3) Interpretation

- The purpose of the interpretation is to write what the artist is trying to represent? These are personal interpretations that are mainly emotional, involving the mood and feeling that each individual sees in an artwork.
- Think about the relationship between the artwork, time and culture in which it was created. Refer to the CONTEXT of the art.
- Ask Yourself: What idea is the artist is trying to represent and why?, how does the choice of media affect the message/purpose of the piece? what can this piece of artwork tell us about the time in which it was created? and how do the artists choices about the work affect how we understand its "message" and "meaning"?

## 4) Judgment

- This is YOUR thoughts and feelings about the artwork. (Return to your first impressions of the work have they changes and if so, why? This is a culminating or reflective activity, do it individually and think critically

(If you can find out as much about the work and the artist as you can.