
AP[®] Art History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

Inside:

Free-Response Question 6

- Scoring Guidelines
- Student Samples
- Scoring Commentary

Question 6: Continuity and Change**5 points**

(A) Accurately describes ONE visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer)*. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- The work is made from marble.
- The work is a monumental (stands 6' 11"), freestanding sculpture.
- The subject is a nude male (athlete or warrior) with clearly defined muscles.
- The figure stands in a contrapposto pose, with a diagonal counterbalancing occurring around a central axis.
- Tense and relaxed limbs counterbalance one another, with one hand raised to hold a spear (missing); the other arm is hanging relaxed.
- One leg is raised and bent at the knee, so only the ball of the foot is touching the ground; the other leg is rigidly supporting the weight of the body.
- The head is turned slightly.
- The figure's anatomical proportions are idealized through the use of harmonious mathematical ratios.
- The figure is youthful, lacking flaws, blemishes, or signs of aging.
- The figure appears calm and passive, lacking emotional expression.

(B) Accurately describes ANOTHER visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer)*. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- One from list in A.

(C) Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates continuity with earlier Greek artistic traditions. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- Like the Anavysos Kouros and other Archaic Greek statues, the *Doryphoros* is a life-sized, monumental sculpture carved in the round.
 - Like the Kouros, the pose of *Doryphoros* implies motion with one foot placed in front of the other.
 - Similar to earlier Greek statues, the figure's proportions, anatomical details, and facial features are idealized.
 - Like the Kouros and other Archaic Greek statues, the muscles of *Doryphoros* are clearly defined.
 - The statue reflects the tradition of depicting a youthful male nude.
 - The Roman copy reflects the tradition of using marble in Greek sculpture created before the time of Polykleitos.
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- (D)** Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates change from earlier Greek artistic traditions. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- The figure’s contrapposto pose demonstrates a naturalistic weight-shift that differs from that of earlier Archaic Greek sculpture, where the figure’s weight is often distributed evenly.
- Through subtle modeling, the figure’s musculature, anatomical details, and hair are treated more naturalistically than what is seen in more stylized Archaic Greek statues such as the Anavysos Kouros.
- The figure’s proportions, based on mathematical ratios, are notably more harmoniously designed than those of the Archaic period, where, for example, figures often appear with an unusually large head.
- The figure’s torso and limbs are more relaxed, suggesting flexibility or movement, than those of the Archaic period, where the figures can appear rigid and frontal.
- The expression on the figure’s face is one of calm or reserved neutrality, lacking the “archaic smile” of Archaic Greek sculpture.

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- (E)** Accurately uses specific visual or contextual evidence to explain why this sculpture is considered to be influential on later artistic periods. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include:

- Polykleitos’s *Canon* established a set of standardized human proportions that was periodically referenced and reused by later artists to idealize the human form.
- Roman emperors had themselves depicted in poses with a similar weight-shift to draw comparisons to the idealized *Doryphoros* as an indication of power, dignity, and/or a connection to the ideals of the Classical period of Greece (e.g., Augustus in the sculpture Augustus of Prima Porta).
- Throughout the Renaissance, European artists interested in humanism depicted figures in poses similar to *Doryphoros* as they pursued greater scientific accuracy and naturalism when representing the human body (e.g., Durer’s image of Adam and Eve in Germany; sculptures of David by Donatello and Michelangelo in Italy).
- Neoclassical artists often employed the posture (contrapposto) and idealized features of Classical Greek sculpture, such as the *Doryphoros* to reference the values and ideals associated with the Classical past (e.g., statue of George Washington by Houdon).

Total for question 6 5 points

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Q 1

Q 2

Q 3

Q 4

Q 5

Q 6



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

~~The~~ The Doryphoros sculpture ~~is~~ is standing in a contraposto stance. He has one leg bent/relaxed, while the ~~other~~ other stands straight ~~and~~ carries his weight. The sculpture is also in the nude.

~~The~~ The body is idealized, ~~and~~ the man ~~is~~ is muscular.

His face is calm ~~and~~ serene ^{refined} looking outwards.

One way the work shows continuity is his portrayal being in the nude, previous sculptures like the ~~Anakourous~~ Anakourous (archaic greece), was also nude. Another continuity is the idealized ~~and~~ muscular ~~bodies~~ bodies, also as shown in Anakourous.

The work demonstrates change in his positioning. Previous greek sculptures would stand upright ~~and~~ their limbs all tucked into their bodies.

~~Their~~ Their positioning was very static ~~and~~ posed. The contraposto of the Doryphoros sculptures shows more movement ~~and~~ a relaxed/natural positioning. Another change is his facial expressions.

~~A~~ A characteristic of earlier greek sculptures was their archaic smile. Which was a small smile to make the pieces seem more lifelike. However, the Doryphoros ~~sculpture~~ sculpture ~~has~~ he has a more calm ~~and~~ serene face ~~with~~ with no smile. ~~The~~

Elegance ~~and~~ being refined was respected ~~and~~ that's shown in his facial expression.

Page 12

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Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

- Q 1 Q 2 Q 3 Q 4 Q 5 Q 6
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Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

~~the colonial times~~ This sculpture influenced the positioning of many sculptures in later artistic periods. For example the George Washington Sculpture made in ^{the} colonial Americas can be attributed to this piece. Both use contraposto ~~and~~. This sculpture is pose are significant and ~~pose~~ because many portraits done similar to this in the same period all depict people of power, ~~the~~ the idea of power can be associated with the sculpture. Late sculptures like George Washington take this into account, they made their sculpture similar to portraiture ~~of~~ Washington power. Another influence is making the sculptures relaxed & increasingly more lifelike & increasing monument.

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Q 1



Q 2



Q 3



Q 4



Q 5



Q 6



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

The work shown is a Roman copy of the originally ancient Greek figure of Doryphorus.

The work uses contraposto and it ~~is~~ shows ~~an~~ a very idealized and strong body of a ~~the~~ male figure.

It represents continuity from earlier Greek artistic traditions in that ~~it is~~ the figure is raised on a little platform and has a strong and athletic body and posture. Also his face and the way he stands ~~looks~~ are looking ~~very~~ very powerful and selfconfident.

This sculpture is influential on later artistic periods because it represents a leader of something which comes back a lot of times and also during the Roman Empire, (for example, Augustus de Prima Porta)

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

● **Important:** Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q5

Q6

Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

This work is shown to not be wearing any clothes and is also seen to have more detail in certain areas of this sculpture. A lot of Greek sculptures from this time period were sculpted without clothes ~~on~~ on. This seems to be a Greek tradition ~~and~~ but it also has some new elements to it that aren't traditional in Greek art. This sculpture is known to be made of bronze but at the time ~~many~~ or many Greek pieces were seen to be made of marble. This sculpture was influential because of its lack of detail in certain parts of the sculpture. The face is not as detailed as some other features are. This sculpture has many old and new parts to it.

Page 11

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Question 6

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

Responses were supposed to demonstrate primarily the art historical thinking skill of identifying and analyzing artistic traditions, as well as visual and contextual analysis. To be awarded all five score points, the response needed to successfully accomplish the following tasks:

- Describe two visual characteristics or features of a marble copy of the *Doryphoros*, originally created by Polykleitos.
- Explain how the *Doryphoros* demonstrates both continuity and change within the sculptural practices of the Classical Greek world.
- Explain why the *Doryphoros* was influential in later artistic periods.

Sample: 6A

Score: 5

Task A: Accurately describes ONE visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros* (Spear Bearer). (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing the sculpture as “standing in a contrapasto stance” with “one leg bent/relaxed, while the other stands straight.”

Task B: Accurately describes ANOTHER visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros* (Spear Bearer). (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing the work as “in the nude.” The response also mentions how the man is muscular, that his face is calm, and that he is shown “looking outwards.” Each of these additional observations could have also earned the point, if needed.

Task C: Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates continuity with earlier Greek artistic traditions. (1 point)

The response earned this point by explaining that the “work shows continuity in his portrayal being in the nude.” The response also mentions how the statue is “idealized” and “muscular.” Both of these could have earned the point, if needed.

Task D: Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates change from earlier Greek artistic traditions. (1 point)

The response earned this point by explaining that the “contrapasto of the *Doryphoros* sculptures shows more movement” and a “relaxed/natural positioning” in contrast to the static earlier sculptures. It also mentions another change in the facial expression. It explains how the *Doryphoros* has a more calm and serene face “with no smile” as opposed to the Archaic smile of earlier works. This additional information could have also earned the point, if needed.

Task E: Accurately uses specific visual OR contextual evidence to explain why this sculpture is considered to be influential on later artistic periods. (1 point)

The response earned this point by explaining how the statue influenced later works so that the result would be “making the sculptures relaxed” and “increasingly more lifelike” with “increasing

Question 6 (continued)

movement.” The response attempts to explain that the influence resulted from a desire to express power, but this explanation is not clearly supported with sufficient visual or contextual evidence and could not have earned the point.

Sample: 6B

Score: 3

Task A: Accurately describes ONE visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer)*. (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing how the work “uses contraposto.”

Task B: Accurately describes ANOTHER visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer)*. (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing how the figure “shows a very idealized and strong body of a male figure.”

Task C: Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates continuity with earlier Greek artistic traditions. (1 point)

The response earned the point by explaining that continuity is demonstrated by the figure’s “strong and athletic body and posture.” The response also states that the figure “is raised on a little platform,” but this would not have earned this point because where and how the original statue or the Roman copy was intended to be displayed is not known with certainty. Also, the response states that “his face and the way he stands are looking very powerful and selfconfident,” but this also would not have earned this point because it lacks specificity its explanation of how the face or stance is similar visually to earlier works.

Task D: Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates change from earlier Greek artistic traditions. (0 points)

The response does not attempt to address this task point.

Task E: Accurately uses specific visual OR contextual evidence to explain why this sculpture is considered to be influential on later artistic periods. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point. It attempts to explain that “this sculpture is influential on later artistic periods because it represents a leader of something wich comes back a lot of times and also during the Roman Empire.” Since the *Doryphoros* does not depict a leader, however, the response fails to accurately explain why the work was considered to be influential.

Sample: 6C

Score: 2

Task A: Accurately describes ONE visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer)*. (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing the figure as “shown to not be wearing any clothes.”

Question 6 (continued)

Task B: Accurately describes ANOTHER visual characteristic of the *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer)*. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point. Although it attempts to explain that the work “is also seen to have more detail in certain areas of this sculpture,” it fails to describe these details with specificity.

Task C: Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates continuity with earlier Greek artistic traditions. (1 point)

The response earned the point by explaining, “A lot of Greek sculptures from this time period were sculpted without clothes on.”

Task D: Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the work demonstrates change from earlier Greek artistic traditions. (0 points)

This point was not earned; the response does not address this task.

Task E: Accurately uses specific visual OR contextual evidence to explain why this sculpture is considered to be influential on later artistic periods. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point. Although it attempts to explain that “the sculpture was influential because of its lack of detail in certain parts of the sculpture,” this statement only addresses how rather than why later works were influenced by the *Doryphoros*.