



AP[®] Art History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

Inside:

Free-Response Question 3

- ☒ **Scoring Guidelines**
- ☒ **Student Samples**
- ☒ **Scoring Commentary**

Question 3: Visual Analysis**5 points**

(A) Accurately describes ONE specific visual characteristic of the work shown. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- The print depicts a landscape.
- The work incorporates solid, flat planes of color.
- Simplified contour lines are used for the forms and figures in the work.
- Horizontal lines of the landscape contrast sharply with the vertical trees and mountains in the background.
- Diagonal elements created by the trees, people, and blowing paper dominate the composition.
- The work is a polychrome woodblock print.
- The artist has incorporated printed text/calligraphy/writing.
- The image depicts a scene where a strong wind is blowing paper and other objects into the air.
- There are depictions of rice paddies, a small shrine, and people.
- The artist uses a predominantly cool color palette with warm accents.
- A sense of spatial depth/recession is created through overlapping forms, diminution of size, linear texture, patches of color, and atmospheric/aerial perspective.
- The asymmetrical composition includes mountains and trees on the left side and items blowing in the wind on the right.

(B) Accurately describes ANOTHER specific visual characteristic of the work shown. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- One from list in A.
-

-
- | | | |
|------------|---|----------------|
| (C) | Accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ONE way the artist creates a sense of movement in the work. | 1 point |
|------------|---|----------------|
-

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- The repeated use of diagonal lines in the figures and landscape creates a sense of the figures' physical movement through the scene.
- The curving line of the path moves the eye from the foreground to the background.
- The short dense lines of the grass look animated, suggesting movement from the blowing wind.
- Figures move along a winding road that zigzags through the center of the composition into the distance.
- The asymmetrical composition directs the viewer's eye through the scene.
- The repetition of color creates rhythmic movement throughout the composition.
- The flying debris suggests a strong wind that blows items through the air.
- The figures wear flapping clothes and hold their hats against their heads, suggesting movement of the wind.

-
- | | | |
|------------|---|----------------|
| (D) | Accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ANOTHER way the artist creates a sense of movement in the work. | 1 point |
|------------|---|----------------|
-

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- One from list in C.
-

-
- | | | |
|------------|--|----------------|
| (E) | Accurately uses specific contextual evidence to explain how the work shown is characteristic of other Japanese prints (<i>ukiyo-e</i> prints) from this period. | 1 point |
|------------|--|----------------|

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- The work shown is characteristic of a Japanese print (*ukiyo-e* print) due to its subject matter, which includes:
 - A scenic view of a Japanese landscape and elements from Japanese daily life and/or cultural activities.
 - Distinctively Japanese landmarks and geographical features, such as Mt. Fuji and the rice paddies.
 - A depiction of natural weather phenomena, in this case, strong winds, against which human figures struggle.
 - A portrayal of working-class Japanese people performing daily tasks in a natural landscape.
 - The depiction of a specific moment, reflecting the transitory, fleeting nature of time.
- The work was part of a series and likely sold as a memento or souvenir to tourists (similar to postcards), which was common for *ukiyo-e* prints.
- The print title, series name, and/or signature are incorporated into the print, which is typical of Edo period artworks.
- The work indicates cross-cultural exchange with the West through the use of new materials and/or illusionistic perspective.

Total for question 3	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.

Question 3: Two specific visual characteristics shown in this work include the flat and bold colors and the stark and defined outlines. The colors used are flat and bold due to the fact that this piece is a woodblock print. The colors help differentiate the grass from the people, people from the trees, etc. The stark and defined outlines are also a result from the use of woodblock print. The outlines ~~show~~ show the difference between each thing being depicted. These ~~bold~~ bold lines give a feel for something simple yet understood. Two examples of specific visual evidence ~~that~~ that show how the artist creates a sense of movement in the work include the flying papers and the running ~~people~~ people. The flying papers create movement in the work because the flying itself shows movement.

Page 8

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.

the flying also indicates that there is a harsh wind ~~blowing~~ blowing, which is also indicated by the blowing grass and trees. This shows movement in the way that the papers are made to look like they are being whisked away by the breeze. The running people create movement in the work because their running is depicted in the same direction as the breeze. They are struggling to catch their papers while the wind blows on them and ripples their clothes. Or perhaps they are unaware of the loss of papers and are instead running to shelter to escape the wind. In any case, movement is created through them running away and their clothes cheerily being blown. This work is characteristic of other Japanese prints (ukiyo-e) from this period because it shows an event →

Page 9

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.

that is a flash in time. ~~that is~~
Ukiyo-e is the idea of passing
time and what happens in a
specific time. It is the idea
of the ever changing world
and attempts to capture it
through these prints. This
piece is characteristic of
that because the wind blowing
papers away shows a
moment in time that will
never happen this way again.

Page 10

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

0036488



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.

2 specific visual characteristics are the use of lines to ~~make~~ create objects such as a mountain, or walkway, and the use of linear perspective to show the background is far, it shows the difference in the foreground and background. To create a sense of movement, the artist puts objects in the air to make it seem as they fly off. The people are midstep to show they are walking, and the tree and grass are all crooked, to show that they are swaying with the wind. The grass is different shades of green and the sky is a dark orange. This is characteristic of other Japanese prints because of the Japanese writing in the top left, the hats which are of Japanese culture, and the lines drawn were popular at this time, so it signifies that as well.

Page 4

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.

The work Ejiri in Surugi Province (Sunshū Ejiri) by Katsushika Hokusai is an interesting piece as all figures in the work seem panicked and desperate.

The specific visual characteristics show that the people in the work are desperately trying to gain control of their surroundings, as seen by those passing on the road. All trying to hold onto something of personal value to them, some letting go. The wind is too strong and they are trying to fight it as they ~~are~~ carry on walking down the path. As being a part of the Thirty-six Views of Mount ~~the~~ Fuji, Hokusai creates a sense of movement by expressing the act of pushing through. Not like a mountain that stands still, but carrying on in the moment.

Page 4

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

Question 3

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 visual analysis, applied to an unknown work of art. To be awarded all five score points, the response needed to successfully accomplish the following tasks:

- Describe visual characteristics of the selected artwork, *Ejiri in Suruga Province (Sunshū Ejiri)* by Hokusai.
- Use visual evidence to explain the way the artwork’s visual elements convey a sense of movement.
- Explain the way the work is characteristic of other Japanese prints (*ukiyo-e* prints) from this period by using contextual evidence.

Sample: 3A

Score: 5

Task A: The response accurately describes ONE visual characteristic of *Ejiri in Suruga Province (Sunshū Ejiri)*. (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing the work’s “flat and bold colors.”

The response would also have earned the point for noting that “this piece is a woodblock print.”

Task B: The response accurately describes ANOTHER visual characteristic of the work. (1 point)

The response earned this point for describing “the stark and defined outlines” which “show the difference between each thing being depicted.”

Task C: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ONE way in which Hokusai creates a sense of movement in the work. (1 point)

The response earned the point by citing movement in the “flying papers,” which show “that there is a harsh wind blowing.”

Task D: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ANOTHER way in which Hokusai creates a sense of movement in the work. (1 point)

The response earned the point by noting further evidence of movement caused by the wind in “the blowing grass and trees.”

The response would also have earned the point for citing, “the papers are made to look like they are being whisked away by the breeze,” as well as for noting that the “running people create movement ... because their running is depicted in the same direction as the breeze.” The response further cites that the figures “are struggling to catch their papers while the wind blows on them and ripples their clothes.”

Question 3 (continued)

Task E: The response accurately uses specific contextual evidence to explain how the work is characteristic of other Japanese prints (*ukiyo-e* prints). (1 point)

The response earned the point by explaining that the work “is characteristic of other Japanese prints (*ukiyo-e*) from this period because it shows an event that is a flash in time. *Ukiyo-e* is the idea of passing time and what happens in a specific time. It is the idea of the ever changing world and attempts to capture it through these prints. This piece is characteristic of that because the windblowing papers away shows a moment in time that will never happen this way again.”

Sample: 3B

Score: 4

Task A: The response accurately describes ONE visual characteristic of *Ejiri in Suruga Province (Sunshū Ejiri)*. (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing “the use of lines to create ... a mountain or walkway.” The response also could have earned the point for “the use of linear perspective” which “shows the difference in the foreground and background.”

Task B: The response accurately describes ANOTHER visual characteristic of the work. (1 point)

The response earned this point for describing color in the work, noting that the “grass is different shades of green and the sky’s is a dark orange.”

Task C: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ONE way in which Hokusai creates a sense of movement in the work. (1 point)

The response earned the point by explaining that “the artist puts objects in the air to make it seem as they fly off.”

Task D: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ANOTHER way in which Hokusai creates a sense of movement in the work. (1 point)

The response earned the point by explaining that the “people are midstep to show that they are walking.”

The response would also have earned the point for observing that the “tree and grass are all crooked, to show that they are swaying with the wind.”

Task E: The response accurately uses specific contextual evidence to explain how the work is characteristic of other Japanese prints (*ukiyo-e* prints). (0 points)

The response attempts to earn the point by claiming that the work “is characteristic of other Japanese prints because of the Japanese writing in the top left,” but this is visual, rather than contextual evidence. The response would have earned the point if it had attached contextual meaning to the script by stating that it indicates the signature of the artist and/or the title of the work, but without that, it did not receive the point.

The response also attempts to earn the point by citing the “hats” and the “lines drawn,” but those are also visual characteristics rather than contextual evidence.

Question 3 (continued)

Sample: 3C

Score: 2

Task A: The response accurately describes ONE visual characteristic of *Ejiri in Suruga Province (Sunshū Ejiri)*. (1 point)

The response earned this point by describing people “passing on the road.”

Task B: The response accurately describes ANOTHER visual characteristic of the work. (1 point)

The response earned the point by noting, “The wind is too strong and they are trying to fight it as they carry on walking down the path.”

Task C: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ONE way in which Hokusai creates a sense of movement in the work. (0 points)

The response attempts to earn the point by stating that “Hokusai creates a sense of movement by expressing the act of pushing through,” but no explanation or visual evidence is offered.

Task D: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain ANOTHER way in which Hokusai creates a sense of movement in the work. (0 points)

The response does not attempt a second way in which the artist creates a sense of movement.

Task E: The response accurately uses specific contextual evidence to explain how the work is characteristic of other Japanese prints (*ukiyo-e* prints). (0 points)

The response does not attempt to explain how this work is characteristic of other Japanese prints.