

2023



AP[®] Art History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Free-Response Question 5

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Question 5: Attribution**5 points**

(A) Correctly attributes the work shown to the specific artist who created it. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- Julie Mehretu or Mehretu

(B) Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following (with elaboration as shown in the first bullet):

- The characteristic use of lines with different qualities creates a complex overlapping weblike design.
- The work has shapes of different colors, sizes, and types.
- The work has shapes that appear to be floating.
- Changes in scale and diminution of the shapes create flag-like forms.
- There is an ambiguous implied spatial depth created by a differentiation in size in the compositional elements and their placement on the canvas.
- The background consists of negative or blank space.
- There are abstract organic and geometric shapes distributed throughout the composition.
- The composition swirls around and has some convergence in the center.
- There is a combination of colored shapes with gray gestural lines that look drawn (rather than painted).
- The work is created in a monumental size using an immersive, large-scale canvas.

(C) Accurately uses ANOTHER example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- One from list in B.

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- (D)** Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to explain how the artist creates a sense of dynamic movement in the work shown. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

- The placement of curving and diagonal elements creates a swirling tornado-like movement.
- Diagonal and directional lines lead the viewer’s eyes to-and-from the center of the composition.
- The contrast between the different types of lines and shapes creates an energy and frenzied movement.
- The scattered arrangement of varied forms gives a sense of a moving, yet ordered, composition.
- Contrast between the flatness of the picture plane and the implied spatial depth causes a push-and-pull that creates a dynamic visual tension.
- The immense scale creates a sense of a recessed or receding space that rushes into the distance.
- Lines extend beyond the boundaries of the canvas and imply movement into the surrounding space.

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- (E)** Accurately uses ONE example of specific visual or contextual evidence to explain how the artist references architectural space in their work. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses include the following:

Visual

- Mehretu integrates architectural plans and maps into the base layer imagery to reference real architectural spaces.
- Schematic elements are visible in the work (e.g., references to grids, maps, 3-dimensional plans, blueprints, elevations, and floorplans).
- The artist includes many planes of colors throughout the large space of the work.
- Mehretu constructs a complex pictorial space by positioning the compositional elements similar to a building plan or architectural drawing.

Contextual

- The artist employs maps and architectural plans as the basis for their compositions.
- Mehretu uses drafting tools, in addition to painterly techniques, to create their work.
- The artist calls attention to types of regalia that often hang in architectural and stadium spaces, such as flags and banners.
- Mehretu creates references to people moving through space and along pathways similar to highway plans.
- The space is presented by the artist as an energetic and populated place where people gather in large numbers and crowds.

Total for question 5 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.

This work was done by Mchereem.

~~AAA~~ A piece of visual evidence that supports this is the organic shapes in various colors such as yellow, red, pink, green, blue, etc. seem to be similar to ~~AAA~~ ^{the artists} other piece stadia.

Another piece of visual evidence that supports is the use of black lines that move across ~~the~~ ^{the} image and create a sense of structure is ~~the~~ ^{the} similar to ~~AAA~~ ^{the artists} other piece stadia.

~~The artists~~ A piece of visual evidence that created a sense of movement is the scale of different lines and shapes. The curved lines and sweeping lines all allow for the eye to follow it around the piece giving it a sense of movement. The spaces that get filled ~~with~~ with lines show a sense of tight spaces because it is so busy with movement.

A piece of ~~AAA~~ ^{visual} evidence is that references the architectural space is the positioning of drapes. Some shapes are flat on the ground giving a sense that is the floor. The exterior lines around the edges give a sense of walls or an exterior structure. The sketchings across the piece allow for a sense of different ~~the~~ structures or items within the scene.

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

0014136



● **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 piece shown here is ~~Improvisation 28~~ by Willem (??) Kandinsky. This piece is part of his ~~Improvisation Piece~~ series as evident by its abstract composition and chaotic sense of movement in the orientation of the lines and brushstrokes, just as seen in his work, *Improvisation 28*. Kandinsky creates a dynamic sense of movement through a jumbled and intertwined collection of brushstrokes oriented in dozens of directions and ~~angles~~ angles. The overlapping of brushstrokes and shapes near the center of the piece especially conveys a sense of abstract chaos. The use of flat geometric shapes in a multitude of orientations further exemplify a sense of architectural space on the canvas. The jumbled shapes band tightly together, creating a semi-full composition where the closer to the center you get, the less blank white space you see. Kandinsky had a mental ailment known as synesthesia, a disorder in which your brain blends two or more of your senses together, allowing for a more complex mental processing of the world around you. Kandinsky was heavily inspired by jazz music in his ~~improvisation~~ *Improvisation* series. Kandinsky used his visual-auditorial synesthesia to his advantage in order to accurately visually portray musical compositions with abstract paintings.

Page 7

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

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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



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

In this work, the artist creates a sense of dynamic movement by drawing lines that merge together and become almost "messy" at the center, but straighten out as they move away to the edges of the piece. Furthermore, the artist references architectural space in this work by overlapping geometrical lines that are different colors and sizes in order to create shapes that create depth and therefore space.

Page 6

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

Question 5

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 attribution of an unknown artwork, as well as argumentation, comparative analysis, and visual and contextual analysis. To be awarded all five score points, the response needed to successfully accomplish the following tasks:

- Attribute the painting to the artist that produced it.
- Provide two examples of visual evidence that supported the attribution by identifying similar characteristics in other works of art by the same artist.
- Use visual evidence to explain how the artist created a sense of dynamic movement in the work.
- Use contextual or visual evidence to explain how the artist referenced architectural space in the work.

Sample: 5A

Score: 5

Task A: The response correctly attributes the work shown to the artist who created it. (1 point)

The response earned this point through the correct attribution of the work to “Meheretu.”

Task B: The response accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. (1 point)

The response earned this point by identifying “organic shapes in various colors” as an example of specific visual evidence.

Note that in the response, the next sentence mentions that this feature is “similar to the artists other piece Stadia,” but this identification is not necessary to earn the point.

Task C: The response accurately uses ANOTHER example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. (1 point)

The response earned this point by identifying “black lines that move across the image and create a sense of structure” as another example of specific visual evidence.

Again, the next sentence mentions that this feature is “similar to the artists other piece Stadia,” but this identification is not necessary to earn the point.

Task D: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain how the artist creates a sense of dynamic movement in the work shown. (1 point)

The response earned this point by identifying “The curved lines and sweeping lines” as an example of specific visual evidence that helps to explain how the artist creates a sense of movement by “allow[ing] for the eye to follow it around the piece.”

Question 5 (continued)

Task E: The response accurately uses specific visual OR contextual evidence to explain how the artist references architectural space in their work. (1 point)

The response earned this point by identifying multiple features within the work that are examples of specific visual evidence that defines an architectural space. The response indicates “the positioning of shapes,” some “flat ... giving a sense that is the floor,” and then, “exterior lines ... give a sense of walls” create an “exterior structure ... within the scene.”

Sample: 5B

Score: 3

Task A: The response correctly attributes the work shown to the artist who created it. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point because attributing the work shown to “Willem Kandinsky” is incorrect.

Task B: The response accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. (1 point)

The response earned this point by identifying a “chaotic sense of Movement in the orientation of the lines and brushstrokes” as an example of specific visual evidence. Note that even though the attribution is incorrect, the claim that this feature is “just as seen in his work” clearly implies an intent to describe relevant similarities between the work shown and another work created by the artist that was identified.

Task C: The response accurately uses ANOTHER example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. (1 point)

The response earned this point by identifying that “[t]he jumbled shapes band tightly together” as another example of specific visual evidence. Note that this phrase comes after the explanation of movement in the work that earned the point for Task D.

Task D: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain how the artist creates a sense of dynamic movement in the work shown. (1 point)

The response earned this point by using specific visual evidence to explain how the artist “creates a dynamic sense of movement through a jumbled and intertwined collection of brushstrokes oriented in dozens of directions.”

The response would also have earned the point with the observation that by observing “The overlapping of brushstrokes and shapes near the center of the piece especially conveys a sense of abstract chaos.”

Task E: The response accurately uses specific visual OR contextual evidence to explain how the artist references architectural space in their work. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point. An attempt is made to explain the artist’s reference to architectural space by describing the “flat geometric shapes in a multitude of orientations.” While

Question 5 (continued)

this is an accurate description, it does not sufficiently explain how those oriented shapes create a sense of architectural space.

Sample: 5C

Score: 1

Task A: The response correctly attributes the work shown to the artist who created it. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point because there is no attempt to attribute the work shown to a specific artist.

Task B: The response accurately uses ONE example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point because there is no attempt to justify an attribution.

Task C: The response accurately uses ANOTHER example of specific visual evidence to justify the attribution by describing relevant similarities between the work shown and other works created by the same artist. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point because there is no attempt to justify an attribution.

Task D: The response accurately uses specific visual evidence to explain how the artist creates a sense of dynamic movement in the work shown. (1 point)

The response earned this point by using specific visual evidence to explain how the artist created movement by “lines that merge together and become almost ‘messy’ at the center” and then “straighten out as they move away to the edge.”

Task E: The response accurately uses specific visual OR contextual evidence to explain how the artist references architectural space in their work. (0 points)

The response did not earn this point. An attempt is made to explain the artist’s reference to architectural space by describing how the “overlapping geometrical lines ... create depth,” but this does not sufficiently explain how those lines create a sense of architectural space.