

## ***Pre-Visit Activity***

<b>Title:</b> <i>Elements and Principles</i>
<b>Subjects:</b> <i>Language Arts, and Visual Arts</i>
<b>Grade:</b> <i>7-12</i>
<b>Time:</b> <i>Approx. one hour</i>

### **Introduction:**

In this activity students will gain observation, written and oral communication skills regarding artwork. The goal of this lesson is to introduce the elements of art and principles of design and to help students analyze artwork for form and content.

### **Objectives:**

*The student will:*

- view one or more slides from the slide packet
- write observations about the artwork
- analyze art work for form and content
- share his/her observations with the class
- utilize the vocabulary of art
- understand the elements of art and principles of design

### **Materials:**

slides, slide projector, index cards, masking tape, chalk board, pencils

### **Vocabulary:**

On succeeding sheet

### **Motivation:**

Project a slide of your choice and allow a few moments for careful, silent observation. Pass out five index cards to each student. Ask students to write down one observation per card. Encourage descriptive observations such as: "I see a very sad girl." or "I see a bright yellow sky."

### **Procedure :**

- write the words "formal" and "conceptual" on the board
- pass out the vocabulary sheet, let students review the vocabulary sheet
- ask for volunteers to define these terms using their own words and give examples from the artwork
- as students mention the elements and principles, ask a student to record them on the board underneath the word "formal"

- as students mention words having to do with thoughts or emotions have another student record those words under conceptual
- ask students to share their initial observations from the index cards, and tape their cards under the appropriate category

### **Items for discussion:**

Students may have made many of the same or similar observations, when this occurs ask students to place theirs next to the other student's on the board. This is a good time to discuss word choice. Brainstorm with students the many creative ways you could phrase the same thoughts.

### **Evaluation:**

*Did students:*

- view one or more slides from the slide packet
- write observations about the artwork
- analyze art work for form and content
- share his/her observations with the class
- utilize the vocabulary of art
- understand the elements of art and principles of design

### **Interdisciplinary Connections:**

*Ask students to:*

#### **Language Arts:**

- write a critique for an art work of their choice using the elements of art and principles of design making sure to analyze the work for form and content

#### **Social Studies:**

- scan newspapers and magazines for political cartoons and analyze for content
- research a political art work and write about the concepts

#### **Visual arts:**

- create an artwork which gives priority to formal concerns
- create an artwork that gives priority to concepts