

## 30 Famous Works of Art

### Small group writing project

**Objective:** Get students to think critically about works of art and begin to read them as living documents open to interpretation.

**Lesson:** Break students into small groups of four to five students. Have the group assign a scribe to take the group's notes. Give each group a printout of one of the 30 Famous Artworks Everyone Should Know. Instruct students to choose one of the discussion questions listed below. Allow them time to discuss and then ask them to write up their thoughts. They should then present their thoughts to the class as the teacher projects the image given to them.

**Students:** Choose one of the discussion questions below to discuss with your group about your work of art. Have your scribe take notes and be prepared to discuss your ideas with the class. You have \_\_\_\_\_ minutes to discuss and prepare.

1. What do you think the artist was trying to convey with this work?
2. How does the use of color and/or light affect the mood or emotion of the piece?
3. What do you notice about the composition and how does it affect the overall impact of the work?
4. How does the cultural or historical context of the artwork inform your interpretation of it?
5. How does the artwork make you feel and why?
6. How do you think the artist created this work? What materials and techniques did they use?
7. How does this artwork compare to others by the same artist or from the same period/style?
8. How does the artwork relate to contemporary issues or ideas?
9. How would you describe this artwork to someone who has never seen it before?
10. How might different people interpret this artwork differently?

Notes:

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