
Written Work

SBL Art Department

The reason we encourage you to respond in a written format to the work of others and your own is so that you have an opportunity to record what ideas or thoughts you have.

These guidelines may help you when you are responding using words with pictures to convey ideas.

What?

What are you seeing? What is the use of colour? What is the composition like? What is the subject matter? What size is the work? What is the surface of the work like? What is the title? What relevance does the title have? What is the work about?

Why?

Why has the artist created this work? Why do you think the artists chose the subject matter they did? Why did you choose to look at this work? Why is it relevant to what you are doing?

How?

How has the work been created? How have the materials been used? How has the scale affected the viewer? How do you know what the work is about? How many other pieces of work were created in conjunction with this work? How might this help you? How long ago was the work created?

Always give your own opinion

Always give reasons for your answers

Always try to find other artists that relate to the one you are looking at

Always re-read writing to make sure it makes sense

Always try to expand on some thinking in your writing which is not obvious in the visual work

Never copy writing that already exists

