

Building Vocabulary

On a separate sheet of paper, write the term that best matches each definition given below.

- Standards of judgment.
- An organized approach for studying a work of art.
- The art criticism step in which you make a list of all the things you see in a work of art.
- The art criticism step in which you discover how the principles of art are used to organize the art elements of line, color, shape, form, space, and texture.
- The art criticism step in which you explain or tell the meaning or mood of the work.
- The art criticism step in which you determine the degree of artistic merit of the work.
- The aesthetic theory that focuses on realistic representation.
- The aesthetic theory that places emphasis on the formal qualities.
- The aesthetic theory that requires that a work of art must arouse a response of feelings, moods, or emotions in the viewer.

Reviewing Art Facts

Answer the following questions using complete sentences.

- What will learning the steps of art criticism help you develop?
- Define the four steps of art criticism.
- Describe the three aesthetic theories.
- If the organization of an artwork is most important to an art critic, which aesthetic theory would he or she hold?
- When criticizing functional objects, what must you consider during interpretation besides beauty?
- In what ways are the steps of art criticism different from the steps of art history operations? In what ways are they similar?

Thinking Critically About Art

- Apply.** Select something from your home that is used solely for aesthetic purposes. Critique it using the four steps of art criticism. When you are finished, ask yourself if the object seems different than it did before. Has your opinion of the object changed?
- Analyze.** Find a movie critic's review of a current film in a newspaper or magazine. Read it carefully. Try to find statements that fit each of the four steps of art criticism.
- Historical/Cultural Heritage.** Learn about Georgia O'Keeffe's exploration of nature and natural objects in the Meet the Artist feature on page 30. Nature was a major theme in O'Keeffe's work. Compare and contrast her depiction of nature in the artwork on pages 316–317 with Ernst Kirchner's depiction of a similar scene in Figure 2.8 on page 34.



Museum curators need to be skilled in art criticism to select, analyze, and write about artworks for exhibitions. Visit art.glencoe.com to compare and contrast career opportunities in art.

Linking to the Performing Arts

Dance pioneer Martha Graham uses the aesthetic qualities in the development of her modern dances. See how Graham uses literal qualities, design qualities, and expressive qualities through the use of body movement on page 414.

