

Art Criticism Paper Rubric

	4 - Exceeds the standard	3 – Meets the standard	2 – Partially meets the standard	1 – Does not meet the standard
Introductory Paragraph	The introduction includes detailed, relevant information about the piece, which sets the reader up to understand the context in which the author viewed the piece. The introduction gives an abstract of the paper.	The introduction includes relevant information about the piece, which sets the reader up to understand the context in which the author viewed the piece. The introduction gives a brief abstract of the paper.	The introduction includes some relevant information about the piece, which partially sets the reader up to understand the context in which the author viewed the piece. No abstract is included.	The introductory paragraph is lacking, missing, not detailed, and/or doesn't explain the context in which the author viewed the piece. No abstract is included.
Description (x2 on points)	Gives a detailed account of what the art depicts. The reader can imagine the piece as if they were seeing it for themselves. Does not include interpretation.	Accurately describes the artwork and what it depicts. Provides a somewhat vivid account of the imagery. Does not include interpretation.	Description is present but lacks details. The reader has difficulty imagining what the artwork looks like. Includes some interpretation.	Not detailed or not present. The reader cannot imagine what the artwork looks like. Less of a description and more of an interpretation.
Analysis (x3 on points)	More than three of the elements of the elements of art and more than three of the principles of design are addressed. Analysis is well articulated and thorough. Examples from the work are used to support every statements.	Three of the elements of art and three of the principles of design are discussed in clear detail. Analysis is thorough. Examples from the work are used to support most statements.	Fewer than the minimum of three elements of art and three principles of design are discussed. Analysis is clear but incomplete. Examples from the work are used to support some statements.	Author has not addressed the minimum of three elements of art and three principles of design. Analysis is confusing and poorly articulated. Examples from the work are not used to support the author's statements.
Interpretation (x2 on points)	Clear and thoughtful explanation of the meaning of the work. A solid attempt has been made to discover what the artist is trying to communicate. Examples from the work have been used to support the author's statements.	Well articulated attempt to explain what is happening in the work and its meaning. Examples from the work have been used to support most of the author's statements.	An attempt to explain what is happening in the work and its meaning is made. Examples from the work have been used to support some of the author's statements.	Interpretation missing or poorly articulated. No examples from the work have been used to support the author's statements.
Judgment (x2 on points)	The detailed and well articulated discussion applies the theories (realism, formalism, and/or expressionism) with examples from the work to support the author's answer. The	The discussion applies the theories (realism, formalism, and/or expressionism) with examples from the work to support your answer. The author	The discussion applies the theories (realism, formalism, and/or expressionism) but the examples used do not support the	Theories of realism, formalism, and expressionism are not applied to the piece. Judgment lacks examples from the work as

	author articulates her thoughts about the work regarding its appearance, message, and success/failure as a piece.	articulates her thoughts about the work regarding its appearance, message, and success/failure as a piece	author's answer. The author articulates her thoughts about the work regarding its appearance, message, and success/failure as a piece	support.
Spelling/ Grammar	Paper has no more than minor spelling and/or grammatical mistakes. It has obviously been proofread and spellchecked. Sentences are complete and logical.	Spelling and/or grammar mistakes do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing. Sentences are complete and logical.	Spelling and/or grammar mistakes occasionally interfere with the reader's understanding of the writing, but the meaning can be deduced. Some incomplete sentences.	Spelling and/or grammar mistakes confuse the reader and interfere with understanding the writing. Few complete sentences. Proofread next time!

Total Points: _____