

2017/2018

Reading & Writing Workshop 1

EOC #1

Reading

Read the passage below from Patricia Hampl's memoir *Blue Arabesque* that describes the profound impact a painting had on the narrator. As you read the passage, think about a situation from your own life where you were affected or influenced in some way by an artistic work. Then use the passage to help you write a well-organized multi-paragraph expository essay.

I was hurrying to meet a friend at the Chicago Art Institute, a place I didn't know. We had agreed on the museum cafeteria, and I was directed by a guard through a series of connected galleries to a staircase. I was late – of course. Rushing – of course – paying no attention to the paintings on the walls as I hurried to get where I was supposed to have been five minutes earlier.

Then, unexpectedly, several galleries shy of my destination, I came to a halt before a large, rather muddy painting in a heavy gold-colored frame. But that's wrong: I didn't halt, didn't stop. I was stopped. Apprehended, even. That's how it felt. I stood before the painting a long minute. I couldn't move away. I couldn't have said why. I was simply fastened there.

I wasn't in the habit of being moved by art. I wasn't much of a museum goer, and I thought of myself as a person almost uniquely ungifted in the visual arts. I couldn't draw, couldn't see how to lure images from eye to hand to paper.

Maybe only someone so innocent of art history could be riveted by a picture as I was that day. Being spoken to by a picture? I couldn't deny it. One way or another, ever since that uncanny day in the museum, when I was searching not for art but for the cafeteria, I've been staring inwardly at that painting of the thoughtful woman who stares, in turn, at a goldfish bowl. I couldn't explain what the picture expressed, what I intuited from it. But that it spoke, I have no doubt.

Write a multi-paragraph essay that explains a time when you had a similar or interesting response to a work of art (magazine, music, art, photography, movies, theater). Use details from the passage when necessary to explain or clarify your own experience.

As you write, follow the suggestions below:

- **Be sure your essay has an introduction, body, and conclusion.**
- **Use details from the passage to help explain your experience.**
- **Write clearly and check for spelling, punctuation, and grammar.**

Rubric – Expository Essay

	Ideas and Evidence	Organization	Language	Subtotal
A D V A N C E D 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The introduction is appealing and informative The topic is well developed with relevant facts, concrete details, and interesting quotations The concluding section capably summarizes information presented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The organization is effective and logical throughout the essay Transitions successfully connect related ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing maintains a formal style throughout Language is strong and precise Grammar, usage, and mechanics are correct 	
C O M P E T E N T 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The introduction could do more to grab reader's attention Some key points need more support from relevant facts, concrete details, quotations The concluding section summarizes information presented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The organization is confusing in a few places A few more transitions are needed to connect related ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The style is inconsistent in a few places Language is too general in some places Some errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics are repeated in the essay 	
L I M I T E D 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The introduction is only partly informative and could be more engaging Most key points need more support in the form of relevant facts, concrete details, and quotations The concluding section partially summarizes the information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The organization is logical in some places but often doesn't follow a pattern More transitions are needed throughout to connect related ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The style becomes informal in many places Overly general language is used in many places Grammar, usage, and mechanics are incorrect in many places, but the writer's ideas remain clear 	
E M E R G I N G 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The introduction is missing Facts, details, quotations, and examples are missing The essay lacks a concluding section 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A logical organization is not used; information is presented randomly Transitions are not used, making the essay difficult to understand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The style is inappropriate for the essay Language is too general to convey the information Many errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics obscure the meaning of the ideas 	
			Total Score	