

# READING ACTIVITY



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Start Time: 00:00

DATE

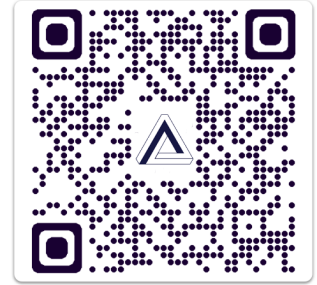
End Time: 00:00

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## Exploring Famous Paintings: Inferences and Interpretations



## STUDENTS NOTES

### 1. Question: What is the subject of da Vinci's "Mona Lisa"?

- A) A man with a serious expression
- B) A woman with a faint smile
- C) A landscape of mountains and valleys
- D) A still life of flowers and fruit

### 2. Question: What is the setting of van Gogh's "Starry Night"?

- A) A bustling cityscape
- B) A tranquil forest
- C) A small town in France
- D) A barren desert

### 3. What was the inspiration for Picasso's "Guernica"?

- A) The bombing of a small town during the Spanish Civil War
- B) A famous battle in ancient Greece
- C) The beauty of the Spanish countryside
- D) A celebration of the arts and culture of Spain

### 4. Question: What is the setting of "American Gothic"?

- A) A bustling cityscape
- B) A tranquil forest
- C) A grand palace in a wealthy neighborhood
- D) A simple house in a rural area

### 5. Edvard Munch was famous for painting calm abstract images.

- A) That is completely true.
- B) That is completely false.
- C) He mostly created self-portraits
- D) That is correct regarding paintings made during the last half of his career

Scan the QR Code to  
listen to the text and  
check the answer key.

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## Exploring Famous Paintings: Inferences and Interpretations

## TEACHER'S NOTES

Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" is one of the most famous paintings in the world. The painting depicts a woman with a faint smile, seated with her arms folded. Despite being created over 500 years ago, the painting remains an enigma. The painting's background shows winding roads and rivers, which has led many art historians to speculate that the painting is a tribute to the landscape of the region where da Vinci was born. Others believe that the painting is actually a self-portrait of the artist dressed as a woman.

Vincent van Gogh's "Starry Night" is a world-renowned painting that portrays the night sky in a small town in France. The painting is famous for its vibrant colors and swirling patterns, which evoke the feeling of motion and emotion. Van Gogh painted "Starry Night" while he was in a mental asylum, and some art historians believe that the painting is a reflection of the artist's inner turmoil and emotions. Others see it as a representation of hope and the beauty of nature.

Pablo Picasso's "Guernica" is a powerful and moving painting that was created in response to the bombing of a small town in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. The painting depicts the horror and chaos of war, with distorted figures and violent images. The black, white, and gray color scheme contributes to the painting's bleak and haunting atmosphere. Although "Guernica" was created over 80 years ago, it remains a powerful symbol of the devastation that war can bring.

Grant Wood's "American Gothic" is an iconic painting that portrays a stern-faced farmer and his daughter standing in front of a simple house. The painting is often interpreted as a celebration of rural American values and hard work. Some art historians see the painting as a commentary on the stark realities of life in rural America during the Great Depression. Others see it as a satirical take on traditional American values and beliefs.

Edvard Munch's "The Scream" is a painting that portrays a figure screaming in anguish against a backdrop of a blood-red sky. The painting is famous for its haunting and unsettling atmosphere. Some art historians believe that the painting is a reflection of the anxiety and existential dread that many people felt during the late 19th century. Others see it as a representation of the pain and suffering that is.

Go to the next page to answer the questions regarding your comprehension of the main ideas and usage of the grammatical structures encompassed in this text.

WORD FREQUENCY  
SENTENCE LENGTH  
IDEA COMPLEXITY  
PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

