

**ART HISTORY**

Paper 3 Thematic Topics

**9799/03**

**May/June 2010**

**2 hours 15 minutes**

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your Centre Number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

This paper contains questions on five topics.

Answer **three** questions in total from **one** topic.

All questions carry equal marks.



This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.



Unless the question clearly indicates otherwise, candidates are advised to focus their answers on a small number of particular case studies.

**Thematic Topic 1: Art and Architecture in the City**

- 1 Describe a district of the city of your choice, explaining its importance in the city's history.
- 2 How significant is the city's history and heritage to a gallery or museum of your choice?
- 3 Compare **two** buildings in different architectural styles, explaining their importance in the city's history.
- 4 If a tourist had time to see only two monuments in your chosen city, which **two** would you recommend, and why?
- 5 Discuss how the city has affected the work of a particular artist (painter, sculptor, or architect).
- 6 Discuss and evaluate a city planning project from any time in the city's history.
- 7 What does a walk through the city of your choice tell you about power and prestige?
- 8 To what extent can the city's social history be seen in works of art?

**Thematic Topic 2: Landscape**

- 9 What meanings are attached to landscape in the art of a non-Western culture?
- 10 How did landscape painting emerge as a genre in Western art? Include discussion of at least **three** individual works.
- 11 Compare the representation of British landscapes in the work of any **two** artists.
- 12 What effects did the growth of cities in Western Europe in the nineteenth century have on the artistic representations of landscape?
- 13 Compare the work of **two** photographers who seem to you to depict landscape in different ways.
- 14 How have artistic treatments of landscape since 1900 reflected the preoccupations of modern culture? Refer to **three** works in your answer.
- 15 How are the myths and ideals of a particular period reflected in landscape painting?
- 16 'I sensed a scream go through nature' (Munch). Compare **two** works of landscape art which communicate strong emotions.

**Thematic Topic 3: Portraiture**

- 17 How are power and portraiture related in the ancient world?
- 18 What important innovations in the art of portraiture took place in the fifteenth century?
- 19 Compare and contrast the work of any **two** portrait painters in the sixteenth century.
- 20 How are the middle classes depicted in the portrait art of any one period?
- 21 How has portraiture been influenced by classical ideals and forms?
- 22 How can portraits convey a political message?
- 23 'A tension between realism and idealism'. Discuss **three** works of portraiture in the light of this phrase.
- 24 How has self-portraiture been used as a means of self-exploration?

**Thematic Topic 4: The Nude**

- 25** What do nudes of the classical period suggest about the values and beliefs of ancient culture?
- 26** Does a knowledge of the cultural background help us to understand depictions of the nude in non-Western art?
- 27** How have Christian attitudes to the body been reflected in depictions of the nude?
- 28** 'Female nudes are an expression of male desire'. Do you agree with this statement?
- 29** How have photographic depictions of the nude shaped or challenged contemporary ideas of gender and sexuality? You may focus your answer on the work of one photographer if you wish.
- 30** Discuss the work of any twentieth-century or contemporary artist who offers us new ways of considering the nude human body.
- 31** Can any useful distinction be drawn between 'nude' and 'naked'? Discuss with reference to particular examples.
- 32** 'There are several different notions of human beauty in art'. Discuss depictions of the nude in the light of this comment.

**Thematic Topic 5: Still Life**

- 33 'A meditation on abundance' (Norman Bryson, *Looking at the Overlooked*). Discuss any **three** Still Life paintings in the light of this phrase.
- 34 How can Still Life paintings be read as documents of their time and society?
- 35 Explore the use of colour and light in any two Still Lives you have studied.
- 36 Compare the painting techniques of any two Still Life artists.
- 37 What is the importance of 'vanitas' as a theme in Western Still Life painting?
- 38 What contribution has been made to the Still Life genre by a medium other than painting?
- 39 How has the Still Life genre been affected by modern mass production?
- 40 How has any **one** Still Life artist succeeded in drawing your attention to the subjects they depict?



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