

Sometimes we don't understand an artwork, or a performance completely the first time we interact with it. You need to ask yourself and the artwork a few questions along the way to fully appreciate it. Don't be discouraged if it takes a little time.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?



- What is it called?
- What can you see/what happened in the performance?
- Does the artwork use symbolism? What kind of symbolism does it use? (e.g cultural, religious, visual, linguistic, composition)
- Is there a specific element or elements you don't understand? Write it down and research it to find out what it might mean.
- What themes can you see in the artwork?

HOW IS IT MADE?

Visual Art



- Is it realistic or stylised? Why do you think that choice was made?
- What materials have been used? Do they add to the meaning of the work?
- How is colour, line, shape, space and, texture used?
- How is the artwork displayed? Is it close to other similar items? Does it have a large intricate frame? No frame at all? Is it displayed somewhere unusual?
- What techniques does it use? Does it use a combination of techniques? Why are the techniques significant?
- When was it made?

Performance Art



- Is it realistic or stylised? Why do you think that choice was made?
- What type of performance was it? (Dance, music, theatre, media, puppetry, comedy, a mixture?)
- Were there any narrative/story elements to the performance? What were they?
- How was the performance staged? Did it utilise lighting, set, props, costumes?
- Why do you think they made those decisions?
- Where was the performance presented? Was it in a traditional performance venue? Somewhere a little unusual?
- What types of characters or performers were in the piece?
- When was it made/written?

HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO IT?



- Does it remind you of any personal stories or experiences?
- Can you recreate it? How would you go about recreating it?
- What are your favourite parts of it?
- What are your least favourite parts of it?
- Do you like it? Why/Why not?
- Would you recommend the artwork/experience to someone else? Who would you recommend it to?

For more resources like this and school excursions please contact AWESOME Arts

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