

Name: _____

Date: _____

Study Sheet: Abstract Art

In general, how is abstract art different from representational art?

Abstract art is nonrepresentational. Based on shapes and gestures, abstract art does not seek to realistically depict objects or space. Subjects are sometimes unrecognizable.

What were the three main styles of abstract art that emerged at the beginning of the 20th century?

Cubism

Futurism

Expressionism

Name one or more pioneer/s of each style

Braque, Picasso

Boccioni, Kandinsky

Matisse, Kirchner

List some general elements of each style

-Subjects are broken and fragmented, not easily recognizable
-Subjects are made up of shapes
-Variety of angles and perspectives

-Dynamic
-Bold
-Reflected speed and embraced the fast pace of modern life

-Contrasting colors
-Simple lines
-Emphasis on emotion and expression
-Sometimes depicted war or violence in reaction to World War I

Out of all these elements, what idea was the cornerstone for each artistic movement?

Break up and fragment figures into abstract shapes as a way to show them from all angles

Reflect the modern, fast-paced, machine-centered world

Capture emotion and expression through shape, gesture, and vivid color

What was the main goal of Synthetic Cubism?

To create recognizable images out of seemingly unrelated elements and mediums

What kinds of subject matter would be fitting for a Futurist painting?

-A race car or anything machine-related

-A figure moving so fast, it appears to blur before the viewer's eyes

The Expressionist movement was pioneered by Henri Matisse and the Fauves.

What does this term mean? Why were the Expressionists called by this term?

Fauves means "wild beasts." They were given the name by French critics who did not like the new direction Expressionism wanted to explore.