

Theory of Knowledge: The Arts as an Area of Knowledge

Culminating assignment:

Essential questions: what makes a great piece of art? What do YOU think is a great piece of art? How does one JUSTIFY one's artistic choices?

The project: You will select something that you believe is a GREAT piece of art. It can be from any discipline within this AOK: poetry, dance, music, sculpture, photography, literature, painting, film, animation, theatre, ceramics, baking, wood working, drawing ... You will present this artistic masterpiece to your colleagues (whole class) and the reasons WHY it's great.

Criteria for assessment:

A written statement will accompany this process that includes:

- Your name, class period, piece of art documented electronically [note: this is either a photo of the piece embedded in the document, a hyperlink to its representation]
- Your rationale for its greatness that speaks to these questions/concepts
 - What is important about this piece? *history, human experience*
 - What is the artist asking us to consider?
 - Is its value based on something universal or specific to a particular culture? *human condition suffering*
 - How does this piece contribute to its artistic genre? *classic portraiture*
 - What WAYS OF KNOWING are inherent to the artist creating this piece and the audience consuming this piece? *sense perception, emotion, reason*
- You will choose THREE aspects from the knowledge framework (for the arts) listed on the reverse side and incorporate them into your reflection.
- You will generate three KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS about the arts.

human cost of public policy

human condition suffering trying to survive

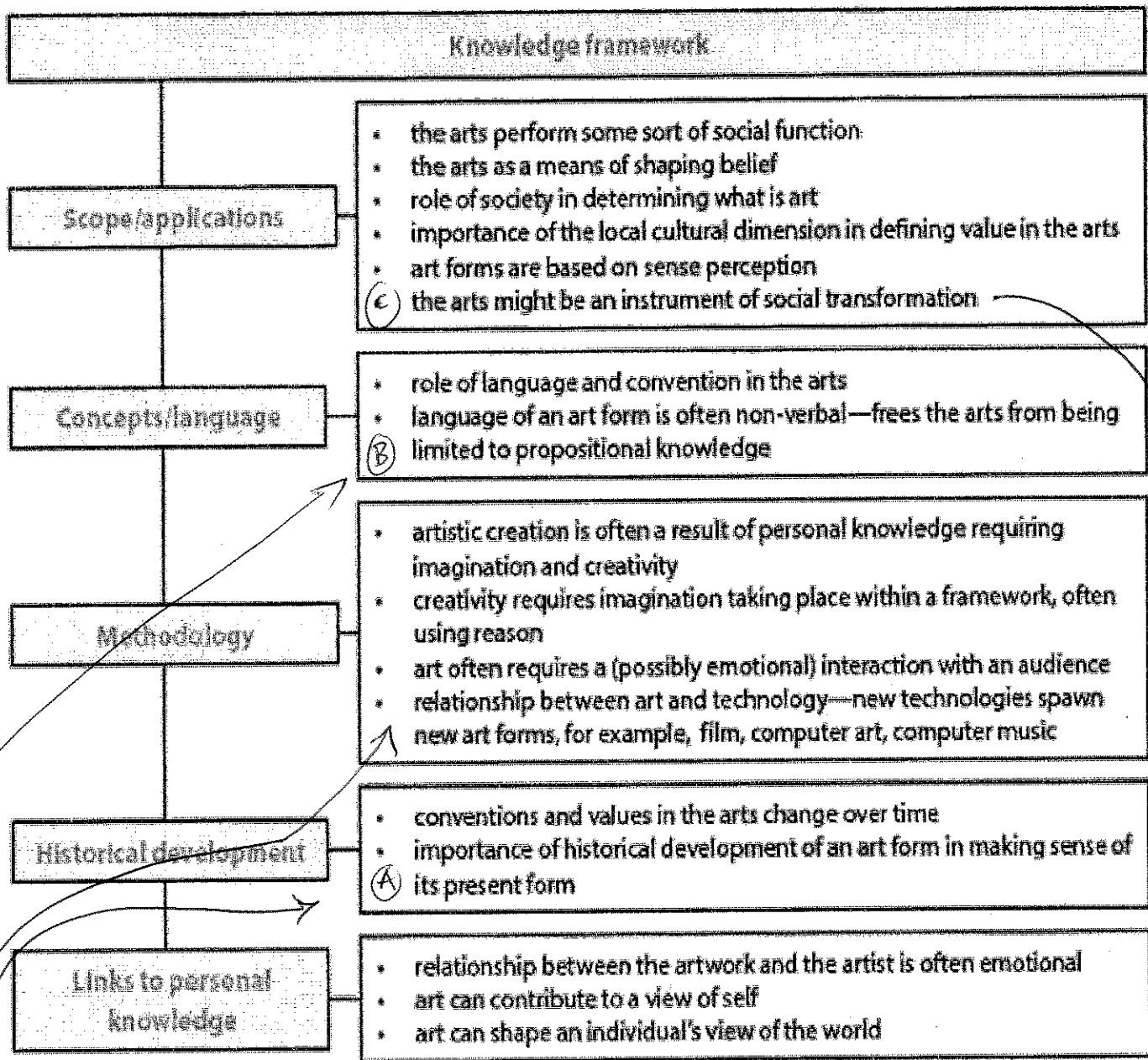


Skills being assessed:

Concept applications: are you demonstrating an understanding of the KNOWLEDGE FRAMEWORK? Are your KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS sufficiently broad in scope and not rooted in a RLS? Does your writing about WAYS OF KNOWING demonstrate a sufficient understanding of their connection?

Reflection: how thorough is your written statement? Do you answer all the questions? Are you considering all aspects of this project and assignment? Are you demonstrating a ToK lens of critical thinking and questioning?

See over for Knowledge Framework



① portraiture to 'selfie' → concerned with others → concern with self
 large format cameras to concealed micro-cameras
 ↳ phone/device carried everywhere

② photo as expression of universal knowledge / shared knowledge
 transcends language
 - the language of the visual image - balance, tone, light/shadow, 'reading'

③ photographer's lens - literally - focuses our vision. The macro becomes micro
 makes theory real.