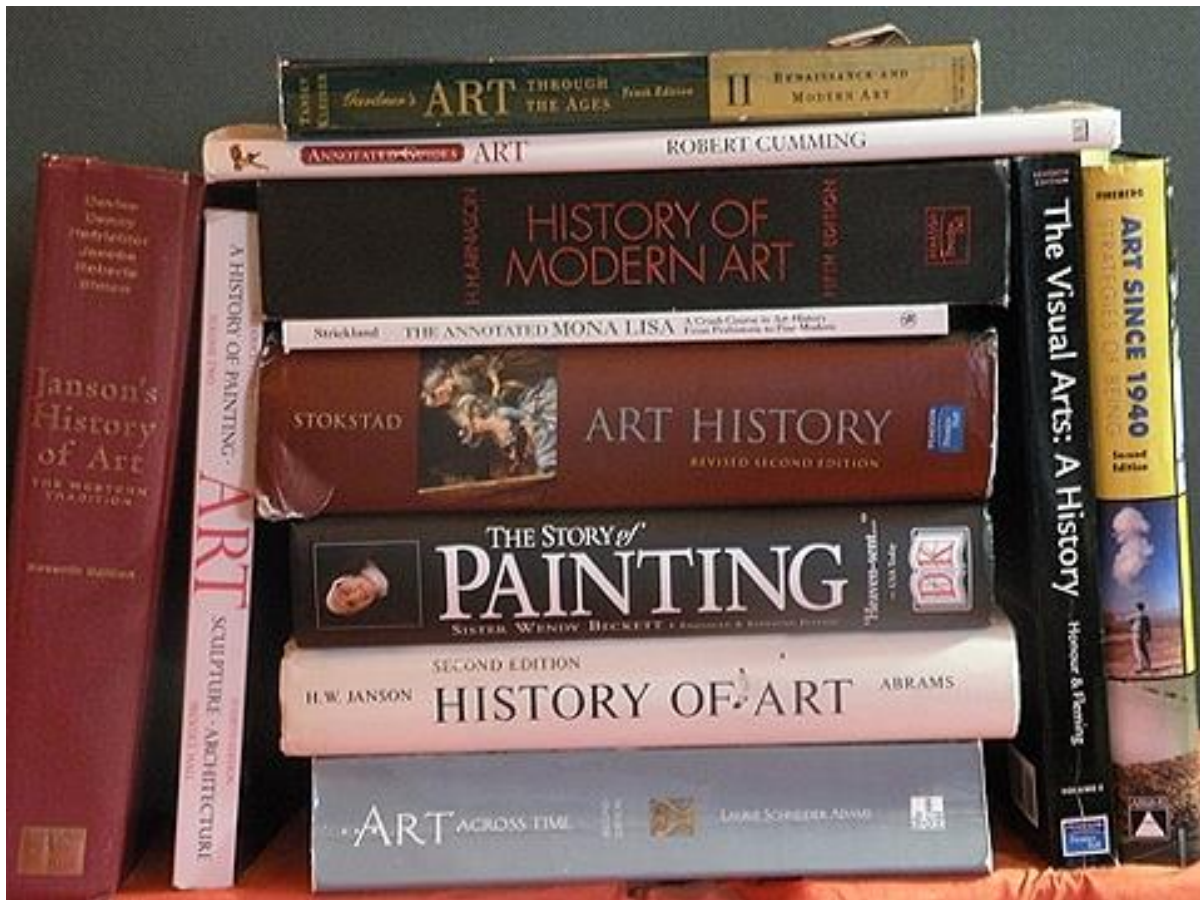


А.Н. Войткова

A Crash Course in the 20th Century Art

**(A Guide to Understanding
& Enjoying Modern and Contemporary art)**



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Учебное пособие содержит обширный аутентичный практический текстовой и аудиальный материал по актуальным проблемам истории современного искусства и направлено на формирование профессиональной дискурсивной иноязычной компетенции.

Предназначено для студентов среднего (среднепродвинутого) уровня, обучающихся в вузах с расширенной сеткой преподавания английского языка, а также для студентов 2-4 курса лингвистического университета неязыковой направленности «Музеология и охрана объектов культурного наследия».

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Talking about modern art

Introductory part

Art Un-Appreciation Cartoons

by T. McCracken

taken from

http://members.pioneer.net/~mchumor/art_appreciation_cartoons.html



1. a) Look at the cartoon aside. Does it seem funny to you?

What does it ridicule? Surf the net & find more cartoons that are mocking at art & discuss their message in class.

Speak up your mind about the cartoon based on this plan:

1. Describe its content; 2. Are some elements recognizable? 3.

Comment on the message if any; 4. Say what you think of it.

Go to http://www.mchumor.com/art_cartoons.html & loot through the art un-appreciations cartoons there

b) These words are used to describe art. Can you match each with its definition?

1. abstract art 2. cubism____ 3. Impressionism 4. pop art____ 5. surrealism

a. modern art movement that originated in the 1920s and 1930s. Objects are shown out of their normal context or as being made of inappropriate material. Humor, the world of dreams, and "the absurd" are three important themes of this movement.

b. art movement that started in the early 1900s. Objects are painted in somber colors, like brown or gray, and are broken down into geometric shapes and planes, with several views depicted simultaneously.

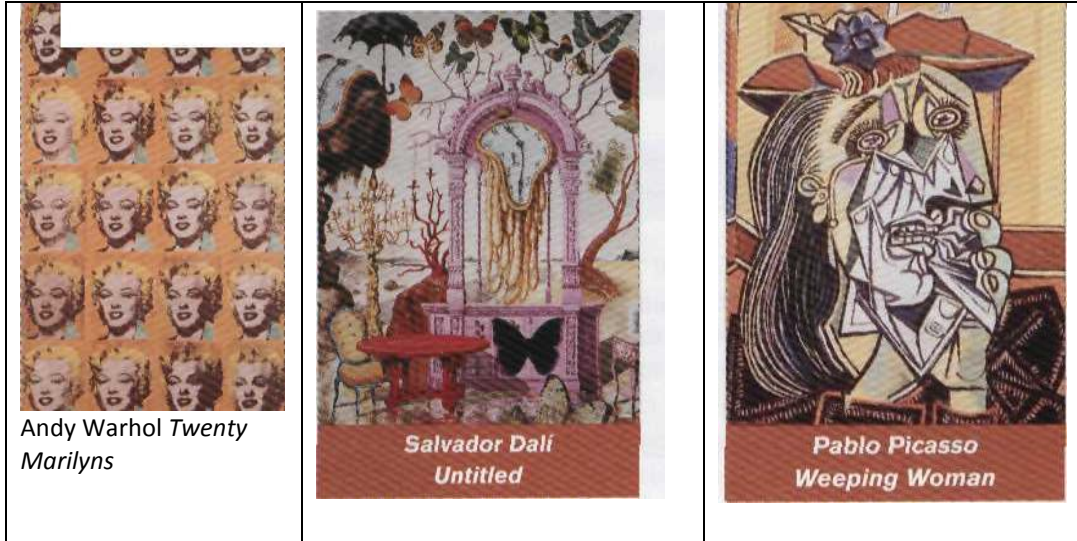
c form of art in which there is no attempt to represent objects or people, but which relies totally on lines, colors, and shapes

d. form of art that developed in the 1960s based on aspects of twentieth-century life such as movies, advertising, comics, and everyday products



e. art movement that started in France in the 18b'0s. The artists use bright colors, and they try to capture the effects of sunlight on water, trees, and fields.

b) Pair work Use the concepts in Exercise A to classify these paintings. Do you know other examples of each style?



2. Challenge or support the ideas below.

- Classic art was the art of necessity, modern romantic art bears the stamps of caprice & chance (Ralph Walde Emerson)
- There is no such things as modern art ... There is art - There is advertising (Albert Stainer)
- Trying to understand modern art is like trying to follow the plot in a bowl of alphabet soup. ~ Anon
- Anybody who paints and sees a sky green and pastures blue ought to be sterilised. ~ Adolph Hitler
- There are painters who transform the sun into a yellow spot, but there are others who with the help of their art and their intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun. ~ Pablo Picasso
- Art is the most intense mode of individualism that the world has known. ~ Oscar Wilde
- No great artist ever sees things as they really are. If he did, he would cease to be an artist. ~ Oscar Wilde
- [Art is] the reasoned derangement of the senses. ~ Kenneth Rexroth

Video File "History of art in 3 minutes"

3. a) How knowledgeable are you about art history? Watch the video & sum up the ideas. What place does modern art take in art history? Did it occur logically that modern emerged that way?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZOsr0TzbJ8>



b) Answer the questions:

1. Why did the proper history began (Egypt, Greece, Rome, India, China, etc)? What provoked it? What did those civilization give to us?
2. What were medieval ages dominated by? Did they dispute the validity of all Gods? As a result what was the medieval art like?
3. What came then? What kind of world did it return to? What are distinguishing features of that epoch?
4. What did they say about Eastern art (China)?
5. What featured of the world was modern art based on?
6. What is art like today? What did the rise of television & cinema lead to?

c) Vocabulary. Watch the video again trying to catch up the words & phrases below & restore the context when these words were said

faceless obese woman pot 'art could no longer feature unrealistic art' morose
 'glowing babies' dimensions 'develop in its distinct way' urinals
 'visual culture' 'popularization of theories of the universe & the human mind'
 stunning Freud 'left an indelible mark on our species' unmade beds
 'many-headed creature' be embedded in DNA
 lead to dissemination of common visual culture be democratized

d) To give you a critical understanding of why modern art emerged & what it is do some research on the net (#encyclopedias or any reference books) & fill in the table speculating what distinguishing features there were in Western Europe in art history periods that made modern art appear & provoke that kind of art that we have today Make a report.



Pre-Modern Era		Modern Era		Post Modern era (coined 1949)
Prehistoric times / Ancient World & Creek & Roman Cultures	Medieval Ages (5th-13/14th)	Renaissance (13/14th-16th)&Reformation (16th)	Enlightenment epoch ("Age of Reason") (17th and 18th)	Modern or Contemporary art
•	•	•	•	•

Variant: Below are the ideas that reflect the key factors for each epoch. Match the idea to the epoch & discuss the pros & cons of each historical cultural period



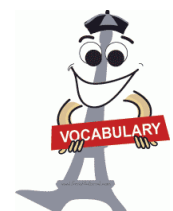
1. feudal society: strong hierarchy (social stratum)	18. intellectual transformation - bridge between the Middle Ages & Modern Era
2. many people's sense of self and purpose was often expressed via a faith in some form of deity	19. Martin Luther (G. Calvin, etc) (against church & papacy as the spiritual intermediaries to the common person)
3. the development of linear perspective --> rendering a more natural reality in painting	20. rise of capitalism
4. age of discoveries	21. gradual but widespread educational reform.
5. Roman empire: democracy, political & law system --> collapse of Roman Empire	22. ideas concerning God, reason, nature, and man were synthesized into a worldview
6. man is the hub of the universe	23. revolutionary developments in art, philosophy, and politics.--> science
7. based on the traditions of Roman empire	24. the use and the celebration of reason , the power by which man understands the universe and improves his own condition.
8. availability of paper and the invention of metal movable type (=printing press) (1440)	25. spread of social movements
9. trade is flourishing	26. the goals of rational man were considered to be knowledge, freedom, and happiness.
10. Crusades to establish Christian states in the Near East	27. urbanization
11. Christianity (absolute power) --> people humble & obedient	28. great cravings for liberty,
12. the building of Gothic cathedrals (artistic achievements)	29. increasing role of science and technology
13. Intellectual life - scholasticism and the founding of universities ;	30. mass literacy and proliferation of mass media
14. in science- an increased reliance on observation.	31. institution of representative democracy
15. were marked by difficulties and calamities (famine, plague, and war)--> diminished the population of Western Europe	32. industrialization
16. cultural and technological developments transformed European society	33. humanism
17. the development of diplomacy	34. individual self-fulfillment.

Your Word Bank 1. Let's sum up the vocabulary from the introductory part (1)

1. mock at	14. glowing babies	26. collapse of Roman Empire	36. papacy
2. ridicule smth	15. feudal society	27. the hub of the universe	37. spiritual intermediaries
3. obese	16. hierarchy	28. the invention of metal movable type (=printing press)	38. rise of capitalism
4. pot	17. social stratum	29. trade is flourishing	39. gradual but widespread educational reform.
5. morose	18. people's sense of self	30. Crusades	40. ideas concerning... God, reason, nature, and man
6. urinal	19. be expressed	31. to establish Christian states in the Near East	41. be synthesized into a worldview
7. 'develop in its distinct way'	20. via	32. humble	42. great cravings for liberty,
8. dimensions	21. faith in some form of deity	33. obedient	43. mass literacy
9. stunning Freud	22. linear perspective	34. calamities (famine, plague, and war)	44. proliferation of mass media
10. 'left an indelible mark on out species'	23. render a more natural reality in painting	35. diminish the population	individual self-fulfillment.
11. 'many-headed creature'	24. age of discoveries		
12. be embedded in DNA	25. Roman empire		
13. 'art could no longer feature unrealistic art'			

Talking about modern art

EGGSISTENTIAL GUIDE TO EATING YOUR ART OUT



4. a1) Vocabulary1. Get yourself familiar with some of the vocabulary from the text below. Make up sentences with them

1. feel animosity towards smb - You hate smb or feel strong dislike towards the person
2. flicker - shine
3. precede smth - smth occurred (=happened) before smth
4. be distinguished by - be different from smth
5. smear - (размазать по тарелке)
6. dizzy - I feel dizzy = everything is spinning around

7. coddle - Don't spoil the child = don't spoil him
8. seaweed - a plant in the sea
9. yell out - scream
10. outsmart - (обхитрить)
11. be desperately constipated - it's hard to go to loo
12. (listen) aghast - ошеломлённый; объятый страхом; поражённый ужасом;

a2) Vocabulary 2. Match the words from column a with their parts in Column B

Column A	Column B	Column A	Column B
1. Things sounded	animosity towards	13. it was	to the side of the plate
2. smooth	tempting	14. push smth	inedible
3. he felt	movement	15. variety of	by the kitchen
4. his eyes fell	slightly	16. on succeeding	days
5. his face flickered	shapes	17. he was backed	seduced by the landlord
6. short-lived	cooked	18. imaginative	kitchen
7. bold	the plate	19. the kitchen was	baffled
8. loosely	purple & red	20. she was	the woman
9. be dyed with	deadlocked	21. he was	variety
10. the eyes were	constipated	22. you wronged	poisoned
11. the man was	on the item	23. dizzying	to choose smth else
12. smear smth across	expressionless face	24. he needed an excuse	styles

a3) Vocabulary 3. Transcribe the following words

simultaneous(ly) smooth..... mixture
 expressionless threatening
 undeniably variety incidentally
 triumphant desperately
 precede

b) Read the text & discuss the styles mentioned there.

EGGSISTENTIAL GUIDE TO EATING YOUR ART OUT



Today, a complete Post-Modernist tale entitled: "Eggs any Style".
 When you have booked yourself in for a fortnight at a seaside hotel to get away from it all, the last thing you want is another set problems. But, as the man found

out, even at a seaside hotel there are new problems. Such as what to have for breakfast.

The man studied the breakfast menu on the first day and hesitated. There were things on the menu that he hadn't eaten for months. Things that sounded simultaneously tempting and threatening. Black budding. Kippers. Arbroath smokies....

"May I take your order, sir?"

He looked up into the face of the waiter, a smooth expressionless face. He smiled at the waiter. The waiter did not smile back. Suddenly he felt animosity towards the waiter. He looked again at the menu. His eye fell on an item he had not noticed before. It said, "Eggs, any style".

"I'd like eggs, please," he said

"How would you like them?"

"Art Deco."

"Excuse me, sir?"

"It says, 'eggs any style'. My favorite style is Art Deco."

The waiter's face flickered ever so slightly.

"I'll see what can be done, sir".

He returned ten minutes later with a boiled egg sitting at the top in a very thin, very tall, undeniably Art Deco eggcup. It had a very long, undeniably 1920s spoon with it.

"Thank you", the man said

"Not at all," said the waiter

the next morning at breakfast the man looked the waiter in the eye and asked for neo-classical eggs.

"I'll see what can be done, sir," said the waiter

He returned with a plate of scrambled eggs, arranged tastefully under a Palladian arch of toast.

"Thank you", said the man

"Not at all," said the waiter

on the third day the man asked for Fauvist eggs.

"I beg your pardon, sir?" said the waiter .

"Fauvist. Fauvism was a short-lived painting movement which preceded Cubism, distinguished by its love of bright colors and bold shapes..."

"I am perfectly well aware of the nature of the Fauvist movement, sir", said the waiter. "I was just not sure whether you had actually said 'Fauvist'. "It sounded a little also like Fascist and a little like Vorticist and a little like..."

"Fauvist," said the man

"Very good, sir," said the waiter.

What he brought back was a plate of eggs loosely cooked and dyed with purple and red, smeared across the plate to look like an angry sunset. It was inedible. But it was undeniably Fauvist.

"Thank you," said the man, pushing the mixture to the side of the plate.

"Not at all, sir", said the waiter, taking the plate away.



On succeeding days the man asked for his eggs to be done in a dizzying variety of styles. Futurist, absurdist, Celtic revivalist, Early English, Jazz Age, even melodramatic.

The waiter, backed by the imaginative kitchen, was never once baffled.

The Celtic revivalist eggs had come coddled in a nest of seaweed. The Jazz Age eggs were done with gin. For the eggs in the style of the melodrama, the waiter had brought them simply boiled, then yelled out: "For God's sake, sir, before you eat those eggs, think of your daughter Nell who even now is being seduced by her cruel landlord for a matter of rent money so small that you could easily have paid it yourself for a very small price of these eggs themselves, which have incidentally been poisoned not a moment ago in the kitchen by the very woman you wronged so many years ago in Calcutta!!!"

The rest of the dining room had listened aghast, but the man had to agree that the waiter could not be faulted. On the last day, at breakfast, the man asked for his eggs to be done in a post-modernist style.

"We at this hotel do not think that post-modernism is worthy to be called a style, sir," said the waiter coldly. "It is merely a ragbag of cultural mannerism."

"So you will not bring me a post-modernist style egg?"

"No, sir."

The two men stared at each other, eyes deadlocked.

"In the case," said the man, "bring me Abroath smokies."

The waiter went away triumphant. He told the kitchen that they had outsmarted the egg-eater. In fact, the truth was quite different, after nearly two weeks of eggs, the man was desperately constipated and needed almost no excuse to choose something else.

(by Miles Kington, *Independent* 11/09/96)

<http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1P2-4810136.html>



c) Answer the following questions:

1. Why should the guest have decided to order eggs in different art styles?
2. What was the first style he ordered eggs in?
3. What kind of dish were the eggs in Art Deco style?
4. How did the kitchen staff manage to present Neo-Classical style?
5. Why did the waiter find it difficult to understand the term "Fauvist Style"?
6. How did they cook Fauvist Style eggs?
7. What style did the client choose on the succeeding days?
8. What were the Celtic Revivalist eggs like?
9. What did they invent for the Jazz-Age style eggs?
10. How did the waiter introduce the melodramatic eggs?
11. Why wouldn't the waiter serve a post-modernist style egg?
12. Who won this 'game'?

