

Advanced Placement Art History

Summer Assignments

Reading Assignments

Gardner's Art Through the Ages

- Introduction: The subjects and Vocabulary of Art History
 - Outline the chapter using the format presented in *Appendix 1*.
- Chapter 1: The Birth of Art: Africa, Europe, and the Near East In the Stone Age
 - Outline the chapter using the format presented in *Appendix 1*.
- Chapter 2: The Rise of Civilization: The Art of the Ancient Near East
 - Outline the chapter using the format presented in *Appendix 1*.

“A Guide to Writing about Art” Reading Packet

- Read, take notes, and prepare for a written test on this material.

Museum Visit Assignment

Visit a creditable Art Museum over the summer (*see suggested local museums below*). On your visit, determine a list of 10 artists who you believe are the most “famous” showing work at the museum. For each artist, write a 1 page paper explaining the following:

- A brief biography of the artist,
- Description of the time period and place in which she/he created,
- Brief explanation of the function or purpose of the artist’s work,
- Who or what influenced the artist (people, political events, cultural situations, etc.), and
- A brief explanation of the style in which the artist created.

Also, include a 2 x 2.5” photograph of one artwork created by the artist.

(*See Appendix 2 for assignment example*)

Suggested local museums:

<p><u>The Chrysler Museum of Art</u> http://www.chrysler.org/ 245 W Olney Rd Norfolk, VA 23510 (757) 664-6200</p>	<p><u>Contemporary Art Center of VA</u> http://www.cacv.org 2200 Parks Ave Virginia Beach, VA 23451 (757) 425-0000</p>
<p><u>Hampton University</u> http://www.hampton.edu 100 E Queen St Hampton, VA 23669 (757) 727-5308</p>	<p><u>Virginia Museum of Fine Arts</u> http://www.vmfa.state.va.us 200 N Boulevard Richmond, VA 23220-4007 (804) 340-1495</p>

Chapter Outline Instructions & Format

Outline Assignment

The following is a brief description of how to set up your outlines for the chapters assigned in ***Gardner's Art Through the Ages***.

Chapter Title: Centered, Bold, Times New Roman, 12 Font

Text: Times New Roman, 10 Font

Bold Type, *italics* all titles

Insert (FIG. **chapter # -#**) for corresponding images

Use two columns per page

Use Bullet indents as follows:

Major Topic

- details 1 (FIG. 2-12)
 - further explanation of detail
 - further explanation of detail
- details 2
 - further explanation of detail

EXAMPLE...

Chapter 4

Minos and the Heroes of Homer: The Art of the Prehistoric Aegean

Schliemann, Troy, and Mycenae

- Schliemann was a German businessman turned archaeologist in the late 1800's
- Uncovered many of the cities Homer named
- Found a vast number of fortified cities believed to be the Troy of King Priam and his son Paris, which was the city Homer celebrated 500 years later.
- Found a massive fortress-palace (FIG. 4-20) in Mycenae where King Agamemnon ruled.

King Minos and Crete

- Myth claims King Minos took young boys and girls from Athens to be fed to Minotaur
 - Minotaur was a half-man/ half bull creature.
 - He lived in a great labyrinth
- An Englishman, Arthur Evans, in 1900 found remains of a palace

(FIG. 4-3 and 4-4) that resembled a maze on the Island of Crete.

Aegean Archaeology

- Many script documents (dubbed Linear A and Linear B) have been found by archeologist that give further explanation about Aegean society.
- Historians can now decipher Linear B script.
- They now know that humans inhabited and developed village life in Greece as far back as Paleolithic period.

Museum Visit Assignment Example



Alexander Calder (American, 1898-1976)

Totem, n.d.

Painted metal, 105 x 109 inches

Gift of Walter P. Chrysler, Jr.

Calder Foundation / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Chrysler Museum of Art

Being the first American artist of his generation to receive world wide fame, Alexander Calder sculpted basic elements of line, color, and shape into fantastically whimsical mobiles and sculptures. Calder's mother, a portrait painter, and his father, a sculptor, raised their family in Pennsylvania. Although professional artists themselves, his parents discouraged Calder from becoming an artist, due to the uncertainty of professional development. Heeding their advice, Calder went to school to become a mechanical engineer, but the artist within prevailed. In the 1930's, Calder was driven to produce sculptures, and his interest in kinetic art led to his most lasting artistic innovation. He introduced movement into sculpture by hanging colored, flattened objects from thin wires, and suspended them from the ceiling, inventing the first mobile. Calder's artworks were inspired by the abstract artworks of Mondrian, whose basic blocks of painted color seemed suspended in space. As part of the Modern Art culture, Calder liked to play with things and made thousands of objects: games, toys, jewelry, sculptures, drawings, paintings, movie sets, costumes, and of course, that for which he is most famous, mobiles.