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91483A



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Level 3 Art History, 2015

91483 Examine how meanings are communicated through art works

2.00 p.m. Thursday 26 November 2015
Credits: Four

ANSWER BOOKLET

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Examine how meanings are communicated through art works.	Examine, in depth, how meanings are communicated through art works.	Examine, perceptively, how meanings are communicated through art works.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

Use this booklet to answer ONE question from Question Booklet 91483Q.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–8 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Excellence

TOTAL

E7

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Question number: 6

Art work (1): Personnes - 2010 Christian BoltanskiArt work (2): Sunflower seeds - Tate ^{Modern} art gallery - Ai Wei Wei

In the art works, 'Personnes' by Christian Boltanski, and 'Sunflower Seeds' by Ai Wei Wei, both contemporary works contain important meanings about each of their own cultures. The construction of these meanings also relate to ^{the artists} contemporary ideas about culture and history. In the work, 'Personnes' which also contains 'no man's land', the graveyard-like installation of clothes is representative of the murder of millions of Jewish people at the hands of the Nazis. Many of Boltanski's works are Holocaust themed as he is of Jewish descent, and he is trying to convey the Jewish people's 'loss of identity' in his works. Ai Wei Wei's 'Sunflower Seeds' also conveys meanings about his own culture, as he uses art to convey the mistreatment of Chinese citizens at the hands of Chinese officials. ~~The~~

In the installation, 'Personnes' by Christian Boltanski, ~~Boltanski~~ There are several features of the work that convey meanings about Boltanski's culture, and sufferings of the Jewish people during the Holocaust. The visual and sound installation contains found objects such as worn clothes, steel hangers, wooden posts & electric lights. With the ^{masses of} clothing set up in

Square piles with wooden posts at each corner, and a large pile in the centre, the installation resembles a graveyard. Each of the clothing items is thought to represent Jewish individuals who were slaughtered during the Holocaust. ^{Through} The large ~~of~~ amount of clothing as well as steel lockers, Boltanski was trying to convey the vast amount of individual Jewish victims killed, ~~rather~~ ^{each} than the Jewish and ~~the~~ piece of clothing represents the loss of identity ~~that~~ of the Jewish victims. The installation also including the sound of heartbeats, ~~as the~~ ~~was~~ further conveying the loss of Jewish lives along with their identity during the Holocaust. The construction of these meanings relates to Boltanski's ^{of remembering} contemporary ideas of the Jewish victims and their oblivion of identity, as ~~his~~ his culture and history were the centrepiece for many of his works.

Another work that contains meanings about culture is "Sunflower seeds" by Ai Weiwei. In this installation Ai Weiwei used hundreds of thousands of Sunflower seeds to represent each individual in China affected by the Chinese Government. To create this installment, Ai Weiwei visited a small village in China called Jingzhen which was 1000 km away from Beijing. Many people in the village did not have jobs as for centuries they had been ~~that~~ creating porcelain goods which were no longer in demand, leaving many extremely poor. Ai Weiwei employed 1500 workers to create the small, porcelain Sunflower seeds.

There were 30 unavoidable stages to making ~~the~~ the seeds ^{using} the traditional Chinese method, as well as individually painting them. This meant that none of the seeds were exactly the same, ~~conveying~~ representing each Chinese individual. There were also many meanings behind the sunflower seed for Ai Wei Wei. When he was a child, ~~and~~ his family along with many others were very poor and had barely enough food. He would always keep sunflower seeds in his pocket to nibble on. During this time, the Chinese Dictator referred to his followers as his sunflowers, as sunflowers always look to the sun. These representations convey ~~many~~ many meanings about Ai Wei Wei's own culture, growing up in China under a strict regime. In ~~his~~ his installation he invites viewers to walk on the seeds, allowing viewers to see the large amount of seeds individually, and with Ai Wei Wei's meaning, realise the large amount of Chinese people affected and see them as individuals. The construction of these meanings relates to Ai Wei Wei's Political drive, against the Chinese government, and conveys his idea about his culture and ~~his~~ history.

In conclusion, Both of these contemporary art works convey important meanings, as well as convey ~~the~~ ^{each} artists culture, with Christain Boltanski's "Personnes" sending a strong message to viewers of the ~~page~~ ~~the~~

Horror of the Holocaust, as ~~so~~ so many Jewish people lost their lives along with their identity. The construction of this meaning relates to Boltanski's ~~idea~~ idea of remembering the deceased and recognising his own culture and history. Ai Weiwei's 'Sunflower seeds' is also an example of culture conveyed through artwork, as he conveys his Chinese culture, and the sufferings of Chinese citizens. The construction of Ai Weiwei's meanings relates to his idea of Chinese Citizens being mistreated in his country and represents his culture as well as history using the Sunflower seed as a symbol.

Excellence exemplar for 91483 2015			Total score	07
Q	Grade score	Annotation		
6	E7	Perceptive and fluently / coherently written, and selects pertinent contextual information to link explanation of meanings.		