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91395



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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 3 Classical Studies 2023

91395 Analyse the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world

Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world.	Analyse, in-depth, the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world.	Analyse, with perception, the significance of a work(s) of art in the classical world.

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

You should attempt ONE of the questions in this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–11 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in any cross-hatched area (⊘). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

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

Excellence

TOTAL 07

Page 1

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ONE of the questions below with reference to one or more **classical art works or buildings**.

You must answer using paragraphs.

QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Discuss the extent to which one or more classical art works reflected behaviour typical of the society in which it was produced.
2. Discuss the extent to which mood was effectively conveyed in one or more classical art works.
3. Discuss the extent to which techniques* enhanced the visual appeal of one or more classical art works.
**Techniques means painting / decoration processes, materials, sculptural styles, and construction.*
4. Discuss the extent to which one or more classical art works had a social and / or political function.

SELECTED QUESTION

Copy and paste the question you have chosen into the space below.

Discuss the extent to which mood was effectively conveyed in one or more classical art works.

CLASSICAL ART WORK(S) OR BUILDING(S)

Kleophrades Painter Hydria

PLANNING

ANSWER

Type your answer in the space below. You should aim to write a concise answer of no more than 800–900 words. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended word count.) The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your answer.

Support your answer with evidence from one or more classical art works or buildings.

B *I* U    

The Kleophrades Painter Hydria was a vase created between 500 - 480BC by Kleophrades. The purpose of the vase was to carry water, its unique number of handles (3) helped an individual carry and pour the water. The vase is unique due to its six interconnected scenes that depict various moments from the Trojan War. Each scene effectively conveys various moods, such as despair, hopelessness, anger, hope, etc. specifically the scenes showing the death of King Priam, the rape of Cassandra, and the one of courage.

The first way in which the vase effectively conveys mood is in the scene known as the death of King Priam. We can see the old king sitting atop an altar with his dead grandson laying across his lap. The body of the young boy is covered in blood, highlighted by the red slip, and his arms hang listlessly around his head. This obvious portrayal of death, creates a sense of sadness and darkness in the scene. We can see Priam as he hunches over his grandson with his hands in his hair, while blood streams from his head. This is a wonderful and realistic portrayal of grief and despair as it creates a feeling of hopelessness and sadness in the viewer. The various moods that are created really helps immerse the viewer in the scene, taking us back to what happened during the war. The emotions of the individuals jump out at us, even though their faces may not hold a lot of expression, the way in which their bodies are shaped effectively conveys the emotion that is not shown on their face, which only helps amplify the mood of the scene. As we focus on Priam, we can see a Greek soldier, supposedly Achilles' son, with his legs in a split stance and his left arm outstretched to grab hold of Priam's clothes. The way in which his legs are spread create the illusion that he is moving toward Priam, his right arm is raised above his head holding a sword as he moves to bring it down upon the old king. As we focus on the soldier we realise he is standing atop a body of a fallen Trojan warrior. This creates a sense of anger in the viewer as we can see the utter lack of respect he has for the dead, or for the gods.

He is about to kill a defenceless man on an altar, something that should be a symbol of protection. As we look at this scene, the way in which the characters are portrayed and the subsequent emotions they evoke from the viewer such as anger and despair shape the mood of the scene. Interestingly, this vase does not portray the Greeks in a positive light as most of the artworks that recount the Trojan war do. It highlights the sadness and tragedy of war. It shows that it is nothing to be celebrated. During the time this vase was created, the Persians were invading the Greek city of Marathon. So this was a very topical historical incident to paint, to remind people of the devastation of war. Therefore, it is to a great extent that mood was effectively conveyed in the artwork, the body positioning, the events taking place in the scene, as well as the reminder of the truth of war all work together to create a powerful yet utterly tragic scene. The emotions that are created in the viewer and that are portrayed in the vase such as anger, despair, defeat, and sadness all help to create the mood of the vase. One of despair and death and hopelessness. The mood that is created from the scene takes the viewers on an emotional journey, something that shows just how effectively the mood was conveyed in the vase.

The second way in which mood was effectively conveyed was in the scene known as the rape of Cassandra. We can see the naked body of Cassandra as she clutches the Palladium of Athene, the most sacred object in Troy, and a symbol of protection. Her nakedness only highlights her vulnerability in the scene and hints at her eventual rape. We can see a Greek soldier known as Ajax the Lesser, roughly grabbing Cassandra's hair as he moves to pull her from the Palladium of Athene. He too is standing atop a body of a fallen Trojan soldier, reinforcing the lack of respect the Greeks had for the dead or for the gods. We see Cassandra's right hand raised with her palm facing upward, the universal sign of mercy. While the scene does not depict the actual rape of Cassandra, the viewers understanding of what happened to women during war and the absolute vulnerability Cassandra expresses creates a feeling of suspense and terror in the scene. Like the first scene, the mood is incredibly dark. However, while the first scene focused mainly on creating feelings of despair and hopelessness, this scene works to create a feeling of terror and of understanding of the inevitable outcome. The scenes on the vase do not glorify war in any way, it creates an accurate portrayal of war and the way people turn into animals. Therefore, it is to a great extent that mood was effectively conveyed in this vase. The feelings of terror and understanding that were created in the viewer helped them to think more deeply about the horrific nature of war and the unique way in which women were forced to face the consequences of it. Mood helps to bring the scene to life, for without the emotions that are seen in the various scenes, the impact of what is happening would be lost. The feelings of terror, anger, and understanding are all different aspects that helps to shape the mood of the scene into one of darkness and terror.

The last way in which mood was effectively conveyed in the vase is in the scene showing the courage of a Trojan woman. The scene focuses on a Trojan woman as she stands with her legs in a split stance, her white chiffon, which could be symbolic of her innocence, flows around her legs creating the illusion of movement. Her arms are raised above her head as she holds a piece of wood. Below her lies a fully armed Greek soldier, he is leaning away from her and has his left arm, which holds his shield, in between him and the approaching Trojan woman. The mood that is created in the scene is one of pride, as the Trojan woman is not cowering before the fully armed and trained warrior. She is doing everything she can to protect herself, her people, and her country. This is quite a different mood from the previous scenes, it is more light and brings people a sense of unequivocal joy. We can see that she is standing up to fight, which is unusual in those times as she is a woman, however, it helps to create a scene that is very powerful. It shows that while war is horrible, there can also be hope and those that are courageous will come out on top in the end, in life or death. There are some undescrivable feelings that occur when looking at this scene and how it makes the viewer feel when shown the previous moods of death, terror, and despair. While they are undescrivable, the powerful emotions that they evoke and the overall lightness of the mood makes it feel as though a weight is coming off the viewers shoulders. Therefore, it is to a great extent that mood was effectively conveyed in the vase. It was a drastic change from the previous dark moods and it offered the viewers feelings of hope, happiness, and pride in the actions of the Trojan woman. It was a relief to have this scene in the vase after so much darkness, the lightness of the mood and the positive emotions it created brought the viewer some peace. The vases ability to create a variety of moods (feelings) helps to bring the story to life. It shows both sides of war. The emotions that are evoked from the viewer highlights the importance of mood, and how when it is done correctly, it can bring the images to life.

The Kleophrades Painter Hydria was a vase created between 500 - 480BC. The vase depicted various interconnected scenes from the Trojan war, and highlighted the truth and darkness behind it. The mood was effectively conveyed in the vase through three scenes such as the death of King Priam, the rape of Cassandra, and one of courage. The powerful emotions that were created in the viewers and the mood that those emotions created brought the scenes to life. Which only reinforces the importance of mood in the scenes as it evokes feelings from viewers that help to bring the scenes to life.

1483 WORDS / 900 RECOMMENDED

Excellence

Subject: Classical Studies

Standard: 91395

Total score: 07

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
Two	E7	The candidate directly responds to the chosen question throughout the response. Both parts of the question are addressed accurately. Relevant, detailed, specific evidence from the art work is provided and supported with analysis that links to the question. Writing is detailed and shows perception. This is a well-balanced response that provides consistent, relevant evidence and analysis that connects to the question. Comparisons are made within the art work. The conclusion links back to the specific question.