



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate
Principal Subject

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ART HISTORY

9799/02

Paper 2 Historical Topics

May/June 2011

2 hours 15 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre Number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

This paper contains questions on nine topics.

Answer **three** questions in total from **at least two** different topics.

All questions carry equal marks.



This document consists of **10** printed pages and **2** blank pages.



Topic 1: The Art and Architecture of Classical Antiquity

1 Sculpture in the archaic period

What purposes did sculpture have during the archaic period in Greece? Wherever possible you should refer to named works in your answer.

2 Greek architecture and sculpture in the classical period. The 5th and 4th centuries B.C.

What are the essential stylistic features of figure sculpture in Greece during the 5th century B.C.? You should refer to named works by at least **two** sculptors in your answer.

3 Hellenistic art and architecture

In what ways does the visual impact of the sculptures on the Great Frieze of the Altar of Zeus at Pergamon depend on their style and technique?

4 Roman imperial architecture from c. 50 A.D. to c. 130 A.D.

In what ways did Roman architects in this period exploit the properties of Roman concrete?

5 Painting and sculpture in the Roman Republic and the early Imperial period, c. 100 B.C. to 120 A.D.

How did the location, design and narrative treatment of Trajan's column relate to its purpose?

Topic 2: Art, Religion and Society in Romanesque Europe c. 1000–1200**1 Building the 'militant' Church**

What are the key characteristics of church architecture in England in this period?

2 Heaven and hell: sculpture in the service of the Church

Discuss the various ways in which sculpture in this period was incorporated into an architectural setting.

3 Illuminating the word

What characteristics are there in common between manuscript illumination and other works of art in this period?

4 Bibles for the illiterate

With reference to specific examples, what functions did stained glass have in this period?

5 Priests, warriors, peasants

Discuss the treatment of the peasant in works of art of the period, concentrating on what this has to tell us about the nature of contemporary society.

Topic 3: A New Heaven and a New Earth: Gothic Art and Architecture c. 1140–1540**1 Gothic architecture, the setting for prayer**

In what ways do the style and construction of the great churches of the Gothic period differ from those that were built in the Romanesque period?

2 Prayer and the role of images

During the period, works of art were commissioned in a variety of materials as an aid to private devotion. In what ways was their design related to this function?

3 Death

How was the design and decoration of English Chantry Chapels determined by their function?

4 Courtly life

The work carried out at Westminster Abbey for Henry III in the 13th century was greatly influenced by contemporary architecture in France. Identify and account for these influences.

5 Civic life

Choose one or more examples of town houses from this period and discuss what we can learn from them about the wealth, status and aspirations of the patron(s).

Topic 4: Man, the measure of all things: the Early Italian Renaissance 1400–1500**1 The making of art**

What functions did drawings have in 15th century Italy? Discuss this with reference to named drawings where possible.

2 The human form

In what ways did the sculptures produced by Donatello, Ghiberti and Nanni di Banco in the first half of the 15th century in Florence mark a new departure in the treatment of the human form?

3 Patronage

Many individuals in the period spent large amounts of money on artistic patronage. What did they hope to gain from this? You should refer to named works of art and/or architecture in your answer.

4 The influence of Antiquity

What are the characteristics of the sculpted portrait bust in Florence in the 15th century? You should refer to specific examples in your answer.

5 The influence of Humanism, literature and artistic theory

What is the evidence that 15th century Italian architects used proportional systems when designing their buildings? Why do you think that many architects chose to do so?

Topic 5: The Renaissance in Northern Europe c. 1420–1570**1 Painting in the southern Netherlands in the 15th century**

Discuss the treatment of landscape and townscape by artists working in the southern Netherlands in the 15th century.

2 Painting in the southern Netherlands in the 16th century

How did Bruegel the elder convey the changing seasons? Discuss this with reference to his paintings of *The Months*.

3 The German speaking lands

Why are Dürer's engravings so highly regarded?

4 France

Discuss Cellini's work for the French court.

5 England

Discuss the influence of both English and foreign sources on the design and decoration of Henry VIII's palaces.

Topic 6: Faith Triumphant: Seventeenth Century Art and Architecture**1 Baroque Rome**

How did artists working in Rome in the seventeenth century respond to the recommendations of the Council of Trent? Discuss with reference to at least **three** examples of painting and/or sculpture by different artists.

2 French classicism

What type of 'history painting' did seventeenth century French painters execute? Refer to at least **one** work by Poussin and **one** by Claude in your answer.

3 Flemish ambassadors

What pictorial elements does Van Dyck employ to convey the status of the sitters?

4 The Dutch Golden Age

What was distinctive about Vermeer's paintings?

5 The Spanish court and Church

With reference to at least **three** examples, discuss Zurbarán's religious paintings.

Topic 7: Defining the Nation: Art and Architecture in Britain c. 1700–1860s**1 High art and high life**

“In the century following its foundation [in 1769], the Royal Academy was the most influential institution in British artistic life”. (Vaughan 1999). Discuss.

2 Portraiture and society

Compare and contrast the portraiture of Reynolds and Gainsborough. You should refer to named works of art by both artists in your answer.

3 Modern life

Discuss Hogarth’s treatment of satirical subject matter in his paintings.

4 Landscape

Discuss the working methods which Constable used when painting the large landscapes intended for exhibition.

5 Architecture

In what ways did a knowledge of Palladio’s buildings and writings affect the development of the English country house in the first half of the 18th century?

Topic 8: Art, Society and Politics in Europe c. 1790–1900**1 Neo classicism**

Consider the effectiveness of painting as propaganda in **three** paintings of Napoleon by David and Ingres.

2 Romantic heroes

Analyse Goya's depictions of human behaviour in a time of war and famine in *Los Desastres de la Guerra*.

3 1848 and its aftermath

Discuss at least **three** paintings executed by different artists between 1848 and 1880 which indicate a concern with social issues.

4 Rejected and refused

To what extent is the representation of light and colour an important feature of the work of the Skagen painters **and/or** the French Impressionists? Refer to at least **three** examples.

5 Beyond impressionism

In what ways did Gauguin's style influence Van Gogh during the period in which they shared the 'Studio of the South'? Discuss by comparing and contrasting at least **one** work by Gauguin and at least **one** work by Van Gogh from that period.

Topic 9: The Shock of the New: Art and Architecture in Europe and the United States in the 20th and 21st Centuries

1 Brave new world

Which artists should be credited with the creation of Cubism? What were their distinctive contributions?

2 Visions of Utopia – architecture

In your opinion which is the most exciting building to have won the Stirling Prize for Architecture?

3 Rebellion and the unconscious

What ideals was Tatlin's Monument to the Third International intended to express and why was it never built?

4 The Figure and the Object

Compare and contrast the treatment of the nude figure in the work of at least **two** European painters working after 1945. Refer to specific examples.

5 'Art is about life': Art after Modernism 1970 to the present day

Write a review of a contemporary art exhibition that you have visited. Comment on the design and selection of works.

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