Analyse the artwork by answering these questions:

You must write in full sentences and paragraphs

- Artist
- Title
- Date
- Material
- Art movement
- Describe the subject i.e. what is the painting of?
- Describe the composition – foreground, middle, background
- Describe the light conditions and how these relate to the colours
- Describe the brush marks and how these show movement
- Describe the mood and atmosphere – think about the weather, the activity taking place and the type of location it is

'Starry Night' is a landscape oil painting by the Dutch Post Impressionist artist Vincent Van Gogh. It was painted in June of 1889 from the window of his bedroom while in an asylum in Saint Remy de-Provence, France where he was recovering from a mental breakdown.

Van Gogh is celebrated for his bold and exaggerated use of colour and swirling expressive brush marks which are highly evident in this painting.

The night time scene depicted here focuses primarily on the movement of the clouds and twinkling stars in the sky. His use of small obvious brush marks allows the viewer to follow the wind as it dances across the sky. He has also used a palette of vibrant blues, yellows and white to bring the usually dark and sombre night time sky alive.

The composition of 'Starry Night' is also quite unusual for this period. Van Gogh has placed a large leafy cypress tree in the foreground which leads the eye into the painting. The scale of the tree is out of proportion to the town below with it's church steeple, as if the artist's perspective is from a hilltop above it.

Van Gogh said of his desire to paint landscapes "The sight of the stars always makes me dream" . This depiction of the view he was looking at has a dreamlike quality and illustrates his unique way of seeing the world.

I am hugely inspired by this painting because of Van Gogh's use of exciting colours and textural brush marks and intend on bringing the same qualities to my landscape work.

ANALYSIS

Artistic Style

The artist of this piece is …………………………………………………………..

The title of this artwork is …………………………………………………………………

The date the artwork was made was ……………………………..

The style of the artwork is ………………………………………………………………………..(art movement: Cubism, Fauvism, Impressionism, Realism, Romanticism, Abstract, Expressionist, Surrealism)

Process

The materials that have been used are………………………………………………………………..

They have been applied using………………………………………………………………………………………

……

(describe the brush marks, drawing marks etc. and how the artist has used them to create tone and texture).

Content

In this artwork I can see

……

……………………………………………………………………………………. (explain everything that is in the painting by describing the composition – what's in the foreground, middle & background).

Mood

Describe how the artist has created a mood within the picture through the colours (cool colours = blues/greys/greens/purples, warm colours = yellows/oranges/reds/browns) and facial expression if it is a portrait.

………

………

……

My Work

I am going to create my own piece based on ………………………'s (name the artist) piece using…………………………………………………………. (state the materials you plan on using). In my own piece I will draw ……………………………………………………………………………………………………(explain what you will draw the picture of) because ……………………………………………………………………………………(explain WHY).

Place colour artwork here

EXAMPLE

Artistic Style

The artist is Vincent Van Gogh. I found this artist and artwork on a website called artfactory.com

The title of this artwork is 'Self Portrait – Saint Remy'.

The date the artwork was made was in 1889.

The style of the artwork is Post Impressionism. This is because the painting has very obvious brush marks which Van Gogh has painted in swirls so the viewer can see the movement of the brush.

Process

The materials that have been used are oil paints. These were the most commonly used paints by Van Gogh.

They have been applied using thick swirls all over the canvas. Van Gogh has put pale tones of blues and greens with white together to create a cold colour palette. The obvious brush marks give the portrait a sense of movement because the artist has

Content

In this artwork Van Gogh has placed himself directly in the centre of the composition. The background consist of the spiral shaped brush marks which look like wallpaper. Van Gogh is staring straight at the viewer and as his eyes are in the very centre of the painting we are drawn into them. The cropped composition means that Van Gogh is the centre of focus.
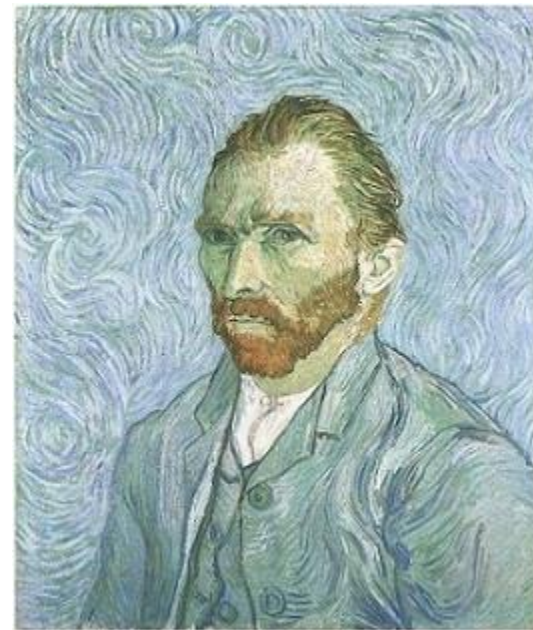
Mood

Van Gogh has created a mood within this portrait through the cool colours he has used and from the serious facial expression. He looks almost angry as he is scowling and his mouth is in a tight line. I think he is trying to express his unhappiness because I have learnt through my research that he suffered from depression and did not make any money from his artwork while he was alive.

My Work

I am going to create my own piece based on Van Gogh's self portrait using acrylic paint. In my own piece I will take a selfie and draw from it. I will take the photo against a plain wall so I can add patterned brush marks like Van Gogh.

I intend to create the same mood within my own painting by having a serious look on my face and I will stare at the camera.

Mood

The mood of the paining is very spooky and isolated as there is no humans in the picture only the boats. The mood reflects the style as there are pale and plain colours used . As well as this the colours are also bright and vibrant this can create the effect of happiness.

Content

The foreground. One reason he drew the boats so quickly was because the sea was coming in quickly so he had little time to draw them from observation. In the middle forum there is roughly drawn sky and then in the back ground there is a clear sky and some more smaller boats

My work

In my piece, I am going to take the quick brush marks and expressive style but I'm going to use oil pastels instead of paints to do this. Instead of brush marks the oil pastel will make smudge marks witch will look like the brush marks.

Process

Van Gogh has uses oil on canvas, the brush marks are very quick and rough in the back ground and fore ground but the boats are very smooth and solid colour, creating contrast between the two throughout the painting. He uses this rough and quick markings to show the movement of the sea and the wing on the beach . This painting is in an expressive style.

Artistic style

In June 1888 Van Gogh took a 30 mile trip to the sea-side village on the coast of the Mediterranean sea. He then drew and painted over 9 pieces. He was inspired by the speed of how the sea and the wind moves and how it effects the boats.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF AN ARTWORK

Here are some tips to assist you when examing or discussing artwork.

1. DESCRIBE (What do I see?)	2. ANALYSE (How is the work organised?)
• landscape, portrait, people, still, animals, religious, historic • foreground / background • time of day, season • place or setting / inside or outside • abstract / realistic • horizontal / vertical • old vs. modern/historic vs. contemporary • action - what is going on? • story?	• **line:** strong, dominant, thin, directional, broken, outline, structural, curved • **colour and value:** warm, cool, light, dark, solid, transparent, bright, dull, monochromatic, realistic or abstract • **texture:** smooth, rough, coarse, soft • space: perspective, foreground, middleground, background, point of view • **form:** 2D vs 3D form on flat surface, sculptural form • contrast, emphasis, rhythm, pattern, movement, balance, unity, repetition • How do the elements and principles of design work together? • How does the artist use the elements / principles to get your attention? • composition
3. INTERPRET (What is happening?)	**4. JUDGE (What do I think about the artwork?)**
• The artwork is about... • It makes me think about... • The artist is saying... • Mood and feeling: calm, violent, sad, joyful, angry, hopeful, scared etc • The artists wants you to see... • The artist wants you to think about... • The artwork reminds me of... • I want to know... • If I could ask the artist a question, I would ask... • symbols • metaphors • meaning • context • relationships between all the individual parts of the work	• The best part of the work is... • The strengths of the work are... • The weaknesses of the work are... • The artist communicates ideas by... • I learned... • I like___becasue... • I dislike ___because... • I would(n't) choose to hang this work in my room because... • Other people should study this work because... • This work has survived the test of time because... • Why do different people see and understand artwork differently?

ANALYSIS WRITING FRAME

1. Give some general background information about the artist/photographer
2. What do you see, what is the style, what is in the image? Describe it literally.
3. What does it make you think of, feel, or realise?
4. What do you think the artist/photographer is trying to communicate?
5. How does the image communicate this message?
6. What emotions are represented?
7. What would you like to know about it?
8. What do you like and dislike about it? Why?
9. How do you think it may have been achieved?
10. **What ideas can you take from it, what aspects would you like to use in your own work?**

Visual Language (the Top 10 things to talk about)

Depth	Colour	Composition	Contrast	Depth
Perspective	Light	Line	Movement	Space

Word Bank

Colour	Composition	Feeling	Style	Light
Blend	Background	Alive	Abstract	Artificial
Bright	Blurred	Atmospheric	Derivative	Dark
Clashing	Complex	Delicate	Distorted	Evening
Cold	Confused	Depressing	Emotional	Fierce
Deep	Distance	Dignified	Exaggerated	Gentle
Dull	Eye line	Disturbing	Exterior	Harsh
Glowing	Focus	Fresh	Fake	Hazy
Harmonious	Foreground	Expressive	Fantasy	Intense
Intense	Form	Humorous	Figurative	Natural
Luminous	Middle	Imposing	Impressionistic	Shady
Mixed	ground	Nostalgic	Religion	Shadowy
Opaque	Near	Sad	Representation	Warm
Pale	Perspective	Landscape	al	
Pastel	Proportion	Sentimental	Still life	
Pure	Scale		Sketch	
Secondary	Shape		Surreal	
Translucent	Symmetry		Symbolic	
Transparent				
Vibrant				
Warm				