

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Art Criticism Worksheet

Art Criticism – Use this helpful worksheet to help organize your thoughts to complete the art criticism.

- 1) **Description:** Look at the artwork. Describe what you see like a good reporter or detective. Use objective, factual words.
  - a) What can you learn from the credit line or label near the artwork?
  - b) What subjects in the artwork can you recognize?
  - c) Looking at the elements of design, describe what qualities you see?  
*Line, Shape, Color, Value, Texture, Space*
  - d) What media and techniques did the artist Use
  
- 2) **Analysis:** Analysis means you look for relationships. To find relationships among visual elements, look to the principles of design.
  - a) Emphasis. Is there a dominant element or one that you see first? Why?
  - b) Balance. Is there a special balance, or “weight,” among the elements? What mood does it create?
  - c) Proportion. Do the proportions look normal, Ideal or unusual? Why?
  - d) Pattern. Are elements repeated to create a patten? Where? Why?
  - e) Rhythm or Movement. What visual rhythms or paths of movement do your eyes follow? Where? Why?
  - f) Unity and variety. What elements bring together, or unify, many parts of the design? Why? What elements add variety? Why?
  
- 3) **Interpretation:** Use the information you have gathered to tell what the work means to **you**. Use analogies and language with adjectives and adverbs. Example: “The lively, angular shapes seem to be dancing.” State main themes, or hypothesis, that could explain what the artists wanted you to see and appreciate. .
  - a) What does the work makes you think or feel when you look at it?
  - b) Do you think that this work is successful, and why?
  - c) What kinds of reasons can you give for your idea of why this is a good or bad art work?
  - d) Describe the qualities you find in the work?
  - e) Does the work remind you of other things you have experienced?
  - f) How does the work relate to other ideas or events in the world and/or in your other classes?
  
- 4) **Judgment:** Give your opinion on the work's achievement or failure. Consider why you are judging an artwork and the criteria, or standards, you should use
  - a) What parts of the work make you feel it is a success or failure?
  - b) What criteria (think of the style of the work) can you list to help others judge this work?
  - c) How unique is the work? Why do you feel this work is or isn't unique?