

CULTURAL PORTRAIT

AP STUDIO ART

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Choose a culture that you find interesting, or know little about: any except our own American "mainstream" culture or the European cultures which are similar in many ways to ours.
2. In a well-written paragraph, identify and describe five things you know about the art of your country/culture of choice. Don't worry if you are right or wrong.
3. Gather general information and pictures from at least three sources, one of which must be a book or periodical. Read carefully, making notes on_ information you find new and interesting. This part of the assignment will take some time, so allow a few hours.
4. In a second well-written paragraph, identify and describe at least five of the most important things you learned in your research. - Have your ideas changed now? How?
5. What do you think are some important differences between the art of your country/culture and the art being made in our American culture today?
6. Choose a specific artwork from this culture and draw it. You may also make a photocopy of it.
7. Describe how the elements and principles of design are used in this particular work.
8. Describe how this artwork reflects its cultural context:
 - o What was the primary function of the artwork? Did it have multiple uses or purposes?
 - o By what social group of people was it made? For which social group was it made?
 - o Which religious tradition does it grow from? Is this reflected in the artwork itself?
 - o What were the criteria by which this work of art was judged? (If you don't know, try to imagine, based on what you know of the culture.)

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