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Reading & Literacy
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Text Set

Pop Art

Pop Art of the 1960's is the theme I have decided to follow and create a text set for my students. The Pop Art text set is orientated towards eleventh and twelfth grade students studying painting, printmaking, and art history. In addition to learning broadly about the development and reasoning for the creation of Pop Art, I have added texts related to two prominent artists in the Pop Art movement. The artists I will have the students read and research are Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, both of these artists were at the forefront and popularity of Pop Art and should be recognizable to the students. Included in the text sets are large visual art books, biographical internet websites, obituaries, and quotations by the artists these books and articles should interest the students to learn further about Pop Art and the artists themselves. These texts will be used to write about Pop Art, Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, and create original artworks inspired by Pop Art.

Annotations:

1. Livingstone, Marco. Pop Art: A Continuing History. 1st. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc, 1990.

Summary

This is an art book with many visual representations of artwork from various artists and art forms. This book follows the creation of the Pop Art movement from its beginnings as a reaction against abstract expressionism to the end of the modern art era and the beginning of post-modernist art. The book includes full page visuals of art produced by a wide range of artists that influenced the creation of Pop Art to that of artists that were influenced by Pop Art itself. Representations of paintings, silk screens, sculptures, installation pieces, and multi media artworks are shown within the visual reproductions of this book. The text itself is chronologically ordered to inform the reader of the reasoning behind the creation of Pop Art, its impact on the art world, and how it is continuing to inspire artists today.

Readability

This books readability is at a 12th grade level using the Fry Readability Graph. The book is also largely visual with many artworks for the students to look at without having to understand art vocabulary. The book helps students to understand what the author is describing by being able to look at visual aid while reading the text.

2. Wribican, Matt. "American Masters-Andy Warhol." art:21-Art in the Twenty-First Century. PBS. 19 Oct 2007
<www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/database/warhol_a.html>.

Summary

This is a website from a PBS special program related to artists of the Twenty-First Century. Andy Warhol continues to be a major influence to artists of today and his biography is included on this website and in the program to show how he has inspired many current artists. The website includes a detailed biography on Andy Warhol's life, and on his many forms of artwork. The biography outlines his life in chronological order from his birth to his death.

Readability

This website is at a 12th grade reading level according to the Fry Readability Graph. The website also has visual aides and links to other textual information for the students to read and study. The website also may influence the students to watch and enjoy the PBS special series so they can learn and gain more knowledge about twenty first century art and the artists who influenced today's art.

3. "Roy Lichtenstein Biography 1923-1997." artelino-art auctions. 1998. artelino. 19 Oct 2007 <www.artelino.com/articles/roy_lichtenstein.asp>.

Summary

This website includes a short chronologically ordered biography of the Pop Artist Roy Lichtenstein. The website biography includes his early years, his rise to art fame, and his ultimate death. It includes where he went to school, how he worked before acquiring his fame and what art he was working on late in his life. The biography also includes quotations from the artist himself working well as a primary source.

Readability

This website is at a 9th Grade reading level according to the Fry Readability Chart. It is also read easily because of its chronological order. The

4. "Pop Art." Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. Wikimedia Foundation. 19 Oct 2007
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pop_art>.

Summary

This piece is also from a website but it is in an encyclopedic format. The content is a short introduction to Pop Art as a visual art movement. The format includes the emergence of Pop Art in Britain and follows the movement to its high point in the United States as well as describes Pop Art in Spain and Japan. The

website includes visual reproductions of artworks in the Pop Art realm from a variety of artisans and medias. The web-encyclopedic format allows for links to various artists and other art movements so that the student can get a variety of encyclopedic information related to Pop Art.

Readability

This encyclopedia's readability is at a 9th Grade reading level according to the Fry Readability chart. The website also has many visuals and links to other textual learning resources.

5. Pearson, Richard. Andy Warhol, Pioneer of Pop Art, Dies After Heart Attack ." Washington Post February 23, 1987 , natl.ed.

Summary

This is a newspaper obituary article recording the lifetime achievements of Pop Artist Andy Warhol. It is a short but very informative article on how the artist lived his life and how he is an important figure in the art world as well as in American history. The obituary reads as a short biography on Warhol's birth, life, and ultimate death.

Readability

This newspaper obituaries readability is at a 15th grade reading level according to the Fry Readability Chart. The obituary uses long words having to do with art and artisan vocabulary making it challenging for high school students but still very readable since the students will know that the article is having to do with the death of Warhol.

6. Kimmelman, Michael. Roy Lichtenstein, Pop Master, Dies at 73." New York Times September 30, 1997, natl.ed.

Summary

This is also a newspaper obituary article recording the lifetime achievements of the Pop Artist Roy Lichtenstein. This obituary describes Lichtenstein's monumental rise to fame as a Pop Artist and his continuing legacy that follows him throughout his influential lifetime. The obituary is an important read for acknowledging his importance to the art world and his importance in the Pop Art movement.

Readability

This newspaper obituary article is also listed at a 15th grade level reading level according the Fry Readability Chart. The obituary is written as a challenging piece with art world vocabulary that may need explaining and defining to the students. Although the challenging vocabulary may be harder for the students to grasp the way it is written in an obituary format should make the reading easier on the students.

7. "Andy Warhol Quotes." BrainyQuote. BrainyQuote. 19 Oct 2007
<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/a/andy_warhol.html>.

Summary

This inclusion of the text set is a list of quotations made by the artist Andy Warhol. This primary source can and will give students a greater feeling of what the artist was really about and how he really felt about his art and the world around him. It includes quotations from throughout the artist's lifetime and creates a personal understanding not achieved through reading biographies from authors other than the artist.

Readability

The quotes written are at a 6th grade reading level according to the Fry Readability Chart. The quotes are in short sentence format with no paragraphical text. Some of the vocabulary used has to deal with art and artisans that may be difficult for the students to understand but can be easily researched through a dictionary or art book glossary.

8. "Roy Lichtenstein Quotes." BrainyQuote. BrainyQuote. 19 Oct 2007
<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/r/roy_lichtenstein.html>.

Summary

This inclusion of the text set is a list of quotations made by the artist Roy Lichtenstein. This primary source can and will give students a greater feeling of what the artist was really about and how he really felt about his art and the world around him. It includes quotations from throughout the artist's lifetime and creates a personal understanding not achieved through reading biographies from authors other than the artist.

Readability

The quotes written are at a 7th grade reading level according to the Fry Readability Chart. The quotes are in short sentence format with no paragraphical text. Some of the vocabulary used has to deal with art and artisans that may be difficult for the students to understand but can be easily researched through a dictionary or art book glossary.