

## AESTHETICS: 3 Theories Of Beauty

Directions:

**Work with a partner.** You each need to do this assignment. However, you can discuss your answers to see if you are understanding the concepts.

Copy and paste the entire text below into a word processing program. Type your answers directly in the new document.

### Three Art Theories

As you know from our activity yesterday, *aesthetics* is the study of beauty. This field of study tries to understand why people think something is or isn't beautiful. Sometime **aestheticians** (people who study beauty) try to determine what makes a piece of art good or bad. These art critics have divided art into three major theories; *imitationalism*, *emotionalism* and *formalism*. Each of these categories has it's own criteria for determining if a piece of art is good or bad.

**OBJECTIVE: Your task is to find out what the criteria is for each category. And, find artwork that fits each category.**

Maybe you can get a beginning idea of what each category is about by just analyzing their names.

Look at their names.

Take a guess at what they refer to.

(Complete each sentence with a guess about what the word means. Discuss with your partner.)

**Imitationalism** might refer to a piece of art that

**Emotionalism** might refer to a piece of art that

**Formalism** might refer to a piece of art that

So those are your guesses. Now your task is to use the internet to if see you are right, need to correct your guess, or refine your definitions.

Directions: Copy and paste this URL into your web browser.

[http://web.fscj.edu/Joy.Kairies/tutorials\\_2012/art\\_tutorial\\_1/Imitationalism/imitationalism.html](http://web.fscj.edu/Joy.Kairies/tutorials_2012/art_tutorial_1/Imitationalism/imitationalism.html)

Go to the site to find the answers to the following questions. Type (or copy and paste) your answers into this document.

- 1.What is imitationalism?
- 2.What is the primary purpose of an imitationalist artwork?
- 3.What is another word that used to refer to a imitational artwork?
- 4.What is formalism?
- 5.What is the primary purpose of formalism?
6. Can a formalist artwork have recognizable objects?
- 7.What is emotionalism?
- 8.What is the primary purpose of emotionalism?
9. Would all artworks that show emotions be classified as emotionalist?

**DIRECTIONS:**

**Now do a Google image search to find three examples that clearly matches your definitions.**

**Drag them onto your computer's desktop. Then drag and drop them into this document.**

**YOU MAY NOT USE THE IMAGES FROM THE WEB PAGES YOU JUST READ.**

**FIND YOUR OWN EXAMPLES.**

Three examples of **Imitationalism** are:

Three examples of **Emotionalism** are:

Three examples of **Formalism** are:

**When done show your work to Ms. Collins or our TA for 10 pts.**