

List of Descriptive Words to Critique Art

Have you ever been to an art museum and wished someone had given you a list of descriptive words to critique art? Do not despair; you are not the only one who feels this way. There are many people who wish they knew more about art. Here are some words to help you be more art savvy the next time you spend the day at the art museum.

There are many words that can help you be descriptive when it comes to critiquing art. In fact, there are words to comment on every single aspect of art. The line, tone, movement, texture and shape are just a few ways in which art can be critiqued. However, the following list will go into more depth of the words that you can use to critique art.

Six Words to Critique Line

In art a line can be described in several things. The words used to describe line in the form of art are everyday type of words, nothing fancy.

- Flowing
- Delicate
- Simple
- Bold
- Thick
- Thin

Four Words to Critique Tone

When it comes to tone in art there are four words that can help you when critiquing. None of the words are fancy; however they may not all be use in your everyday conversations with friends.

- Subtle
- Contrasting
- Muted
- Dramatic

Five Words to Critique Texture

Texture is a very common element with and often used when referring to clothing, furniture and hair. Also, if you have ever painted a wall in your home you are most likely familiar with the following words.

- Rough
- Fine
- Smooth
- Coarse
- Uneven

Five Words to Critique Shape

Art comes in various shapes whether it is a painting or a sculpture. Therefore, there are specific words to describe each piece of art.

- Organic
- Curvaceous
- Geometric
- Angular
- Elongated

Three Words to Critique Movement

Movement is seen in every piece of art. Movement helps to create or define a piece of art.

- Swirling
- Flowing
- Dramatic

Five Words to Critique Scale Scale is basically the size of the art. The words used to critique scale are common words that are already in our vocabulary.

- Large
- Small
- Intimate
- Miniature
- Monumental

Three Words to Critique Contrast Two out of the three words for contrast have already been used to critique other elements of art. Therefore, it should not be hard to remember these words on a list of descriptive words to critique art. The only other word you need to remember here is the word strong and that is a pretty common word.

- Dramatic
- Subtle
- Strong

Six Words to Critique Color In art color is very important. This is what helps each piece of art stand out. The color, no matter what type of artwork helps define the piece and the artist. A lot of artwork can be determined on who did the work just by looking at the colors, because certain artists use specific colors in every piece of their work.

- Bold
- Vibrant
- Subtle
- Pale
- Earthy
- Naturalistic

Additional Descriptive Words to Critique Art

- Saturation- refers to the brightness of color
- Geometric – refers to the shapes such as circles, triangles, squares, etc.
- Organic – free flowing or rounded
- Symmetry – meaning it is equal on both sides
- Asymmetrical – unequal proportioned elements
- Flat tones – no tonal effect in the color
- Negative space – the space around the actual form of art
- Depth – the illusion of space
- Broken color – dabs or small amounts of color
- Focal point – the spot that stands out in the artwork
- Distorted – a shape that is changed and no longer looks proportioned

Ok, so now you have a list of descriptive words to critique art therefore it is now time to take another trip to the art museum. Look at the same art you looked at before and try to critique it. The artwork now has new meaning and is not just some painting or sculpture to look at.

This useful document was found online at this link: <http://grammar.yourdictionary.com/word-lists/list-of-descriptive-words-to-critique-art.html> I thank the author for creating and sharing this word bank!