

A DAY AT THE MUSEUM



ISB Red Brick Museum

Welcome to the International School of Beijing Diploma Visual Art field trip to the Red Brick Museum! Post-Modern and Meta-Modern art can be challenging, and the work here fits well into one or the other category. I've got this handy worksheet to help you through and access some of the IB assessment criteria.

First – Read the exhibition text. This sets the tone for the whole exhibit and gives you a thread to consider the work. After you read it make some notes, mentally or otherwise, and refer back as you are looking at the work.



You can take notes or draw here if you like.



Second – Look at the work with IB Diploma Visual Art Eyeballs. Normally we look at the formal qualities first, but this time make an intuitive judgement about the time period: Is it post-Modern or Meta-Modern?

Post-Modern = The art is about concept and idea. 1970's – 2010-ish
Meta-Modern – The art moves between concept and aesthetics. 2000's – Present

Now look for evidence to support your intuitive response. Read the title, if it's a video sit there and watch it, leisurely stroll through the exhibits and read text both on the title card and in the work (some of the work has text.)

Make notes, mentally or otherwise.

Analyze it formally. How is the work presented? What principles of design are being employed and how? What is the emotional impact of the work? There are several video pieces and even though video art and film are different, here are some film principles to help you analyze form:

How is positive and negative space arranged?

What are the colour schemes?

How is light and shadow used?

Is there sound? What is the sound doing?

How are the transitions from one scene to the next used?

Where is the camera in relation to the action?

How do all these lead to emotion response?

How does the media contribute to the emotional response?

Intuitively, what do you think the art means?

Make notes either mentally or otherwise.

Three – Now let's interpret the work. Use some of the structuralist, post structuralist, and Marxist devices we've studied.

What symbols are being used? What do they mean to people from the same physical location as the artist? What do they mean to people outside of the same culture?

What are the universal symbols?

What is it in the work we are familiar with? What are we unfamiliar with? Think both personally and globally.

Can the work be understood as being from a specific culture without knowing the artist?

How is the work adhering and/or rebelling against cultural norms? Think place and aesthetics.

How is the work an expression of the mythologies of Asia as told by contemporary artists from different parts of Asia? Refer back to the exhibition text.

Four – It's all about you. What can you borrow, either conceptually or materially from the work you saw today? Be sure to cite your source.

At the very least you should write down some form of expression in your sketchbook or this worksheet. Hope you had fun.

P.s. If you take any selfies with the art work and post it on social media make sure you hashtag #mralleniscool

JK you don't have to do that.

More drawing !

