**Questioning on Works of Art**

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| **CEFR Level and Skill(s):** | A2 Spoken Production |
| **CEFR Competence(s) Aimed at:** | Making effective presentations |
| **Art form(s) Exploited:** | Visual art |
| **Duration of the Activity:** | 60 minutes |
| **Materials and Equipment Needed:** | Images of works of art |
| **PROCEDURE**   1. The teacher selects some works of art such as Raphael, School of Athens; Botticelli, The Birth of Venus; Vincent van Gogh, The Starry Night; Edvard Munch, The Scream; Wassily Kandinsky, Panel for Edwin R. Campbell No. 4, or any other work s/he prefers. 2. S/he can either project one of the paintings on the wall (or screen) or print it on paper in three copies. S/he tells the name of the artist and the painting’s title. 3. S/he splits the class into three groups. Each group focuses on the painting, by observing it on screen (or on paper). 4. The students of each group reflect in a collaborative way on the questions that the teacher writes on the whiteboard:  * “What is the painting describing? What is happening?” * “What does this make you think?” * “Which could have been the artist’s feelings when producing this work?” * “How many colours can you see in the painting?” * “Would you hang a copy of this work at home? If yes, why? If no, why?”  1. The students have 20 minutes to reflect and answer the questions within their group. 2. After that, each group prepares a presentation of the painting in their target language by simplifying their answers. The presentation is prepared in a number of sentences which allows each child of the group to tell at least one sentence. Therefore, the children have to prepare a presentation made of a number of sentences equal (or exceeding) the number of the children in the group. | |
| **Things to consider (Precautions, safety measures, appropriate for larger groups, space needed etc):** | If needed, teachers should scaffold their students when they apply close looking and critical thinking to the work of art.  Teachers may help in the preparation phase of the presentation, if needed.  The activity may be repeated after few days with different paintings. This will allow for development of language skills, critical thinking, observation skills, team work, imagination and art appreciation. |
| **Prerequisites for the teacher :** | The teachers will have to select a work of art: s/he may start with one s/he likes and it is appropriate for children. |
| **Source(s) / Useful links:** | There are many ways to find a painting on internet, just by Googling the artist’s or the painting’s title.  We would suggest to visit the following website to be inspired for a work of art suitable for children:  <https://artclasscurator.com/a-year-of-art-appreciation-for-kids-52-artworks-your-child-should-know/> |