



AP[®] European History 2003 Sample Student Responses Form B

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~~For~~ ~~For~~

For every ~~///~~ epoque in art there has been a reason. The style of the artists as well as their ^{choice of} subject-matter originated from the social and political situation of the nation of ~~the~~ residence or origin. ~~It~~ Just as Humanism was of great influence in the Italian Renaissance ~~where~~ ~~Michael~~ depicted in Michelangelo's David and Botticelli's Birth of Venus; Baroque art and 20th century art found its place in the society of the respectful time.

Baroque art was a response to ~~the~~ Mannerism. The erotic aspects of the latter as well as its unproportionality (elongated figures) was distasteful to many, in particular the clergy. There was a demand for more elaborate and decorative art, especially from the Catholic Church which was extremely decorative in nature (Reims Cathedral eg.). Artists such as Caravaggio sought to paint religious subject matter in the

Caravagisti' manner, using techniques such as "tenebrosos". One such ~~of~~ religious piece was "The Conversion of St Paul." This painting illustrated ~~an~~ a religious event in a much more natural manner than ever before. The ^{traditional medieval + Renaissance} "Madonnas and Child" were now of the past.

^{Furthermore} ~~Here~~, one cannot avoid the most famous piece of Baroque architecture: The Palace of Versailles. The palace was ~~built by~~ designed by Le Brun ~~and Verdur~~ for King Louis XIV of France ~~also~~ so that he could keep tight, but discreet, control over the nobility. Typical of Baroque architecture is the emphasis on the central axis and the grand entrance. Everything follows a regular order and geometric form. The gardens designed by Le Notre also reflect this regularity with fountains connecting intersecting paths and every tree and bush trimmed into a geometric and aesthetic shape. The emphasis on such regularity reflects Louis XIV's control over the nobility. The gardens illustrate

man's control over nature in the way that the "Sun King" controlled his subjects and nobility. The "Hall of Mirrors" furthermore reflect the power of Louis XIV by its extravagance and luxurious golden designs.

~~Even though~~

^{In contrast}

~~On the contrary~~ to the Baroque style, 20th century art ~~was~~ was ~~mainly~~ either "Art for Art's sake" or it depicted ~~the~~ the inner emotions of the artist/society or it ~~demonstrated~~ ^{illustrated} a public statement.

Even though Hitler saw to that much of the ~~art~~ political art was safely kept from the public, ~~his~~ his firm hand did not keep away other artists of Europe.

→ Freud and existentialist ideas of Nietzsche and Sartre had a great impact on the art of ~~the~~ Surrealists such as Magritte and Salvador Dali. Dali who appeared ~~was~~ in the 1950's was very much influenced by Freud's idea of dreams. Many of his ~~art~~ paintings have a dream-like feature to them such as his

^u "Melting Potatoes"

other artists
such as

Picasso and Braque introduced cubism, although this was around 1910. Picasso's "Mademoiselles d'Amignon" caused major uproar, however, his later pieces such as the "Guernica" in memory of the Spanish civil war and bombing of Guernica on market day were quite influential. This ~~is~~ is an example of political art. ~~and~~

In sum, artists were influenced by society and politics as much as society and politics were influenced by art. ~~Examples~~ Examples of the latter would be artworks used as propaganda such as images of strong leaders throughout history such as ~~Beethoven's~~ ^{Rigou's} portrait of Louis XIV and ~~various other~~ posters of Lenin and Stalin to spread communism.

The relationship between artists and society change throughout the centuries in many ways. The relationship mostly depends on a lot of the philosophical thoughts of the time and ^{also} the political ~~u~~ issues at the time ~~too~~. For example the Baroque era of art in comparison with 20th century art is very different. ~~the~~ ~~Baroque~~ ~~art~~ ~~relationship~~ ~~with~~ ~~Baroque~~ ~~art~~ ~~contained~~ ~~more~~ ~~emotions~~, and attachment whereas in 20th century art there was ~~less~~ less attachment to art by society ~~as~~ as the art was more abstract.

In Baroque art there is one main piece of architecture which shows the extravagance of the era's art. The palace at Versailles was built with all the ideas of Baroque art tied in. The king, Louis, at the time wanted Versailles to be at the centre of the government and ~~at~~ the ~~of~~ centre of ~~France~~ ~~the~~ French noble's lives. The building is decked ~~with~~ ^{with} gold hallways and large ornaments which are characteristic of ~~the~~ Baroque art. The gardens of the palace were also extravagant with

large man-made flower beds and shrubs. Paintings were also characterised by bold objects and colours. Van Dyck a painter of the Baroque era painted what was ~~is~~ common of the time. He used gold and pinks and ~~the~~ paint strokes that were light and feathery. All these characters of artists and art demonstrated the ideals of society at the time which were still slightly idealised from the Romantic era. Only noble people were depicted and even then they were ~~not~~ joined by beautiful landscapes and colours that would not have been present and throughout the Baroque era of art the troubles and problems of ~~the~~ political and economics were not depicted.

Art of the 20th century ~~was~~ can be characterised as the exact opposite of the Baroque era. Obviously art had evolved and more styles were produced but society was still affected by art and art became even more of a propaganda. There were numerous styles around in the 20th century

though and two of these styles are surrealism and cubism. Both styles were abstract and unusual. Magritte was a surrealist painter and seemed affected by Freud and his analysis of dreams. Magritte's paintings were decked with normal colours but abstract, dream-like themes which were consistent of the times. Salvador Dali was also another surrealist painter who seemed, like Magritte, influenced by society and Freud's theories on dreams and society. Braque was a cubist artist who seemed to draw inspiration from societies war and destruction and through his movement in art managed to express many people's feelings. So, in the 20th century, unlike the Baroque era, artists drew their inspiration straight from society as Magritte, Dali and Braque all demonstrate.

Artists and society ~~are~~ have always been related throughout centuries. But the relationship has always been slightly different. ~~The~~ Baroque art

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Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

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was inspired ~~only~~ ~~only~~ by the ideals of society whereas in 20th century art the artists expressed the ideas of society more than before, an idea which came from Realist artists.