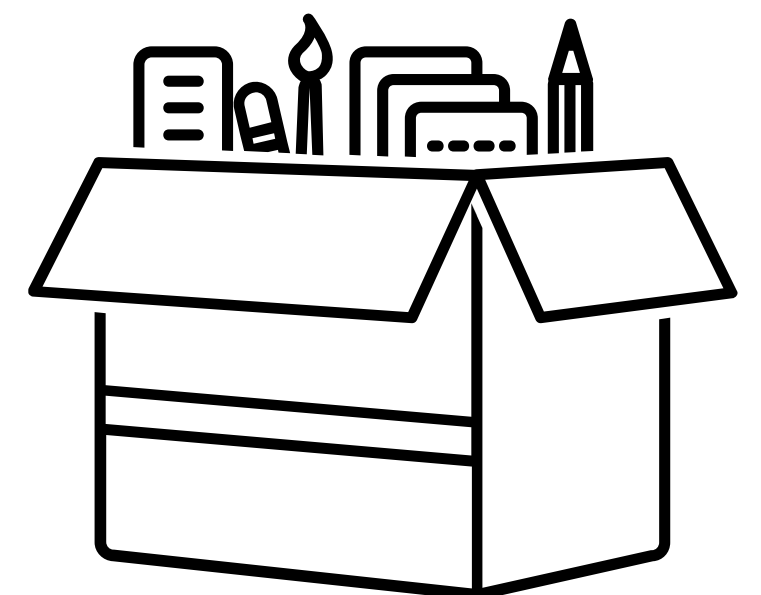


# How to Start your Analysis of Visual Art

Writing about art can be difficult—it's tricky to *describe* art using words, let alone analyze it. Ask yourself a subset of these questions to begin your description and analysis!

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## Material



- What is the work made of?
- How big is it?
- What kind of tools did the author use?
- For all these questions, why?

## Quality

- How detailed is the work?
- How much time, effort, and craftsmanship did the creator put into it?



# Context



- When was the work created?
- How was it received?
- What was happening in society at the time?
- What were society's values?
- What was happening in the artist's life?
- Do similar works exist or is this one unique?

# Purpose



- Who is the target audience?
- How do you feel after seeing it?
- Which part attracts your attention first?
- What was the artist's reason to create this?
  - E.G. commission, religion, patriotism, recognition, romance, etc.

# Interpretation and Analysis

What does this piece tell us about the artist, history, society, the world as a whole, or perhaps something else? You can connect this idea with your previous observations and analysis from this guide!

