

Teaching students how to **CRITIQUE**

In the new curriculum, students are expected to learn how to respond to the art of others and how to reflect on their own, to a level of sophistication appropriate to their grade level. In Kindergarten, they are observing and sharing. By the time they get to Grade 11, they are understanding the purpose of a critique and choosing when to apply suggestions. Listed here are some of the competencies around reflecting on art at various grades.

Arts Education K

Observe and share how artists (dancers, actors, musicians, and visual artists) use processes, materials, movements, technologies, tools, and techniques

Arts Education 5

Observe, listen, describe, inquire and predict how artists (dancers, actors, musicians, and visual artists) use processes, materials, movements, technologies, tools, techniques, and environments to create and communicate

Visual Arts 9

Describe, interpret, and evaluate how artists use technologies, processes, materials, and environments to create and communicate ideas

Develop, refine, document, and critically appraise ideas, processes, and technical skills

Reflect on their art-making process and development as artists

Grade 12 Visual Arts Courses

Identify and initiate inquiry and effective critique strategies (elaboration: age appropriate feedback strategies; e.g., one on one dialogue, safe and inclusive group discussion, reflective writing, gallery walks)

Describe, analyze, interpret, and evaluate, using appropriate terminology, how artists use materials, technologies, processes, and environments in art making

HELPFUL LINKS

10 Creative Critiques to Try this School Year

- created by Sarah Dougherty (Iowa) for use with K-5 students that could also be fun with older students (e.g. ping pong critique, with questions written on ping pong balls and placed in a jar)
- <http://bit.ly/2p41xav>

Successful Art Class Critique

- created by Marvin Bartel for use at Goshen College in Indiana
- gives teachers permission to download and use with their own classes
- focuses on empathic critiques
- <https://www.goshen.edu/art/ed/critique1.html>

Critique Strategies

- from Arts and Justice, a website that posts lesson plans and strategies for a critical art practice with a social justice perspective
- www.artsandjustice.org/critique-strategies/

How to Critique Art

- from Making a Mark, a UK blog for artist and art lovers
- includes links to sites which provide helpful advice about how to critique artwork
- <https://makingamark.blogspot.ca/2010/02/how-to-critique-art.html>

