

.:First Impressions & Opinions

This exercise explores your skills of analytic observation as well as your communication of first impressions and opinions. In addition, it encourages you to practice pre-writing techniques *before* finalizing a draft for a project.

The assignment is not graded for content; however, it does count as a participation grade and specific objectives need to be met. **(total 15 points)**

A. OBJECTIVES

- 1• Complete a one page free-write session with random thoughts and observations regarding the painting: *Autorretrato Con Espinas*. **(10 points)**
- 2• Upload to Turnitin.com. **(5 points)**
- 3• Do not worry about typos or grammatical errors. Do worry about communicating your ideas.
- 4• Your main objective is to fill out one entire sheet with the different ideas and impressions you gain from an artistic source. If you write more than a page, that is acceptable. As a diagnostic exercise, it will show to me your powers of observation and analysis.
- 5• Do utilize proper MLA presentation of document.

B. DEVELOPING YOUR FREE-WRITE RESPONSE

Often students hesitate and “blank out” in front of an empty page. This is a common aspect of the writing process—we all go through this stage at one time or another. If you need more focus on how to combat this feeling, concentrate on answering the following questions in full sentence format:

- What was your first reaction when you saw the painting?
- Why do you dislike/like the image? (Be very specific.)
- What makes her overall work popular even today?
- Can you imagine other people’s reactions?
- What emotional tone does the painting seem to express?
- What emotions do you feel when you look at the work?
- What do the cat and the monkey have in common?
- Why are the two moths *not* in motion— yet the two flowers are shown floating above her head?

C. IMPORTANT

Do not complete background research—but do explore your initial responses to the art piece itself.

D. DUE 01.25.11