

Interpretive and Associative questions (from small group exercise on January 4)

Object 1: Swahili, Hair comb, about 1800, G254

Interpretive

Why do you think the artist chose ivory and gold?

What do you think the design represents?

Why would they decorate it in this way?

What would be the status of the user? Who would use this?

What does this tell you about the owner?

Associative

What kind of occasion would you wear this to?

Who in your life would you give this to and on what occasion?

What would you do if you received this as a gift? If you had this object, how would you use it?

Imagine getting ready for school. Why would you use this?

How does this compare to what you use for your hair?

Do you have something that you own that reflects who you are?

If you owned this, where would you keep it?

What objects do you have at home that are decorated in a special way?

Object 2: Ignazio Collino, Judith with the Head of Holofernes, 1750, G307

Interpretive

What would have to happen for a woman to cut off a man's head?

What do you think she is looking at?

Why would she be holding a man's head?

What do you think she is feeling?

Associative

What have you done that makes you feel this good or satisfied?

How does the story of Judith connect to current events?

Have you ever felt this way?

What have you accomplished in your life that made you feel successful?

Can you think of a time that someone took action into their own hands? Good or bad results?

Object 3: China, Wedding Procession, 1368-1644, G215

Interpretive

By looking at the group, can you identify the roles or importance of the participants?

Where do you think the bride is?

Associative

What did your wedding look like?

What did you wear to your wedding?

Object 4: Hiroshige, Night Scene on Yanagi-bashi Bridge and Restaurant Manhachi, c. 1838-1840, G226

Interpretive

What kind of discussion might they be having?

What cultural clues may indicate what country this artwork comes from?

Why do you think one woman is carrying a lantern?

How do you think the fellow behind the two women is related to them?

What time of day do you think this is?

What are these two women discussing?

What word describes the feeling/mood of this print?

Associative

Where would you choose to be, if you were in this print?

If this scene were in Minnesota, how would it be different?

Describe a place you have been to that similar or reminds you of this scene.

Describe a time you ate food that you were not familiar with.

Imagine yourself on a boat. Where would you go?

The shoes these women are wearing are very fashionable for the time. What is currently fashionable in our culture? How are they alike? Different?

This is a restaurant. Have you ever visited a restaurant that is on the water?

If you could be pictured in this print, where would you be placed?

Object 5: India (Mughal), Jali with Pointed Arch Frame, 18th century, G243

Interpretive

NONE

Associative

NONE

Object 6: Girodet de Roussy-Trioson, Portrait of Mlle. Lange as Danae, 1799, G306

Interpretive

How do you think the woman sees herself, as opposed to how she is depicted here?

Why do you think the artist depicted her in this way?

What special meanings could these birds or animals have in this painting?

What do you think are some symbols used in this painting?

Associative

How would you feel, if you were depicted in a negative way?

What object would you want included in your own portrait?

What things would you include in a portrait of yourself to provide more information about you?

What ways could you alter a portrait or picture today, to better reflect your image?