

Analyzing Visuals: The OPTIC Strategy AP English

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The painting that you are about to look at contains a significant number of details that, when considered together, convey some interesting ideas. Paying attention to the details is a habit that is a necessary part of effective analysis. As you look at the painting, please use the **OPTIC** strategy to construct meaning from the art. **OPTIC** stands for **Overview, Parts, Title, Interrelationship, and Conclusion. As you look at the painting, respond to each element:**

1. **O**- Write a brief **overview** of the painting.
2. **P**- Key in on all of the **parts** by noting any details that seem important. This can be anything: color, figures, textures, scenery, whatever.
3. **T**- Use the **title** to clarify the subject of the painting.
4. **I**- Specify the **interrelationships** in the painting. In other words, how are the parts related both to one another and the painting as a whole.
5. **C**- Draw a **conclusion** about the painting as a whole.

O-

P-

T:

I-

C- Taking all of your observations into account, please write a thesis statement that addresses what you believe is the central idea in the painting.