

# How to Look at Art

Observing art may at first be intimidating without a place to start. How can you make sense of a piece that may be unfamiliar from a foreign place or from a different time period? Start with what you observe and begin to notice details. Consider some of the questions listed below and think of some of your own. Oftentimes the more you know about an artistic process, period of history, or artist the better you can understand the art. As you practice observation and continue to be curious about a piece of art, we expect you will find the learning experience more enriching.

**Describe** ("What do you see?")

---

---

---

---

**Analyze** ("How did the artist do it?")

---

---

---

---

**Interpret** ("Why did the artist create it and what does it mean?")

---

---

---

---

**Evaluate** ("Is it a good artwork?")

---

---

---

---



SAGINAW  
ART  
MUSEUM

1126 N. Michigan Ave.  
Saginaw, MI 48602  
[www.saginawartmuseum.org](http://www.saginawartmuseum.org)

