Focus → Think Clearly ✓ Think Creatively ✓

Artists' Ideas about Art

Common Core Anchor Reading Standard 2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

What are the main ideas in this set of quotations? Group them by idea. There are at least three different main ideas.

1 "When my daughter was about seven years old, she asked me one day what I did at work. I told her I worked at the college - that my job was to teach people how to draw. She stared at me, incredulous, and said, 'You mean they forget?'" Howard Ikemoto

2 "There are painters who transform the sun into a yellow spot, but there are others who, thanks to their art and intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun."

Pablo Picasso

3 "If I could say it in words there would be no reason to paint." Edward Hopper

4 "Drawing is like making an expressive gesture with the advantage of permanence." Henri Matisse

5 "The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance." Aristotle

6 "Painting is poetry that is seen rather than felt, and poetry is painting that is felt rather than seen." Leonardo da Vinci

7 "I try to apply colors like words that shape poems, like notes that shape music." Joan Miro

8 "When the subject is strong, simplicity is the only way to treat it." Jacob Lawrence

9 "I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way--things I had no words for." Georgia O'Keeffe

10 "And after all, isn't it possible to make the most marvelous picture with only a pencil on any piece of paper?" Jose Clemente Orozco

11 "Shouldn't the definition of artist include the ability to make a conscious choice about what is produced?" Joyce Owens

12 "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up." Pablo Picasso

13 "Painting is silent poetry."

Plutarch

14 YOUR WORDS: Write your own idea about art.