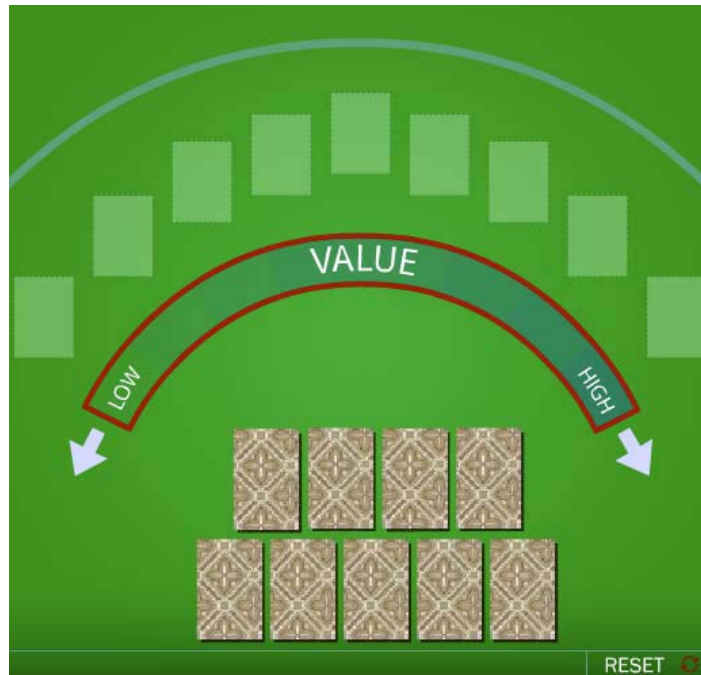


Art and Value

Page 1

You have been dealt nine cards face down. Click on a card and it will reveal a small image. Hold the mouse down and drag the first image onto one of the light green areas on the playing board. Continue to reveal all the cards and decide where to place them in order of value, with the image that cost less on the left and the image that cost the most on the right. You can move the cards around and if you select the correct value the image will be highlighted. If you get stuck, click on RESET.



Don't worry if you don't complete the game at this stage. Simply click FORWARD at any time.

value

to deal cards

face down

to reveal

to continue

to decide

in order of..

little, less, less

much, more, most

to select

to highlight

to get stuck

to complete

at this stage

Language Focus: will-future

Click on a card and it will reveal a small image.

The image will be highlighted.

Page 2

You may recognise the sculpture below. It has become one of the most well known artworks of romantic love. It is called 'The Kiss' and tells the fateful story of two adulterous lovers in Dante's Inferno¹. The couple grew passionately closer as they read the story of Lancelot and Guinevere² together. The book is shown in the detail on the small photo.



QUESTION: What emotions do you think the lovers embrace brings to mind?

¹ Dante's Inferno: a famous Italian Renaissance poem about Hell as opposed to Paradise.

² Lancelot was the knight from King Arthur's round table who fell in love with Guinevere, Arthur's wife.

to recognize

below

well-known

fateful

adulterous

to grow

passionately

close

to read

to show

to embrace

to bring to mind

Language Focus: *passive voice*

It has become one of the most well known artworks of romantic love.

It is called 'The Kiss'.

The book is shown in the detail on the small photo.

Page 3

The artist, Auguste Rodin, has used a traditional process of carving marble. The Kiss can be seen as an ideal form of beauty and eroticism. It is valued by the quality of craftsmanship in the depiction of the figures and by the use of material. However, Rodin considered it overly traditional, calling The Kiss ‘a large sculpted knick-knack following the usual formula.’

QUESTION: How long do you think it took Rodin to create this sculpture?

Page 4

Rodin made three versions of The Kiss in marble during his lifetime. He used a studio system for the production of his marbles where professional sculptors working under his supervision carved the marbles with Rodin making the final touches. The Tate Gallery version of The Kiss was actually carved by a sculptor named Rigaud and finished by Rodin himself.



QUESTION: Some people place value on a work of art because it is unique. Given that here are three versions of The Kiss, do you think this makes the work less unique? Give a reason for your answer.

to use

to carve

marble

craftsmanship

to depict

however

to consider

overly

to sculpt

knick-knack

to take sb to do sth

during

the final touch

to place sth onto sth

unique

reason

How to express opinion...

I think that...

In my opinion,....

To my mind,....

I feel that...

I believe that...

Language Focus

Look for passive voice on page 3 and page 4!

Page 5

The Kiss evolved from a half-life size version that Rodin originally made in bronze. He was later commissioned to make a version in marble on a larger than life scale. It was recorded that Rodin had difficulty completing the first marble to schedule. Rodin said that he would not have the time to prepare The Kiss as he wished. It would take him ten years to complete.



QUESTION: What difference, if any, does it make if an artist has assistants to make the work?

to evolve from sth

size

half-life size

life size

originally

to commission sb to do sth

scale

large

larger than life

to record

difficulty

schedule

to complete sth to schedule

to prepare

Page 6

The artist, Cornelia Parker, has made a physical intervention with The Kiss by wrapping string around Rodin's sculpture. She called the artwork, The Distance (A Kiss With String Attached).



© Cornelia Parker 2003. Photo: Tate Photography

physical

intervention

to wrap

string

distance

to attach sth to sth

Page 7

Artists often make references and interventions with works of art by other artists. In Cornelia Parker's work, found or modified objects are often featured. By appropriating Rodin's The Kiss with her mark, Parker might have changed the meaning of the work.



© Cornelia Parker 2003. Photo: Tate Photography

QUESTION: Consider what effect the string has on Rodin's The Kiss. What emotions would you choose to describe the work now?

despair – depression – romance – pleasure – melancholy – fondness – warmth – joy – sorrow – trust
– closeness – danger - longing – desire – gloom – anxiety – loneliness – friendliness – oppression -

reference

intervention = Eingriff, Einmischung

to modify

to feature

to appropriate = sich etwas aneignen

to change

to consider

to choose

Interventions

In art, intervention can apply to the act or an instance of responding critically with an existing work of art by physically modifying or interfering with it.

It can also apply to the act of responding to a space or a site by placing a work of art in that space or whereby the artist performs in a space.

to intervene = in etwas eingreifen

to apply

instance

to respond

to respond critically

to modify sth

to interfere with sth

space

site

Try to define the term intervention in your own words!! Keep it simple!!

Appropriating

As a term in art history and criticism refers to the more or less direct taking over into a work of art of a real object or even an existing work of art. Appropriation was developed in the readymades created by the French artist Marcel Duchamp from 1915. Most notorious of these was Fountain, a men's urinal signed, titled, and presented on a pedestal. Later, Surrealism also made extensive use of appropriation in collages and objects such as Salvador Dali's Lobster Telephone. In the late 1950s appropriated images and objects appear extensively in the work of Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg, and in Pop art. Sherrie Levine reproduced as her own work other works of art, including paintings by Claude Monet and Kasimir Malevich. Her aim was to create a new situation, and therefore a new meaning or set of meanings, for a familiar image. Appropriation art raises questions of originality, authenticity and authorship, and belongs to the long modernist tradition of art that questions the nature or definition of art itself. Appropriation has been used extensively by artists since the 1980s.

to appropriate sth = sich etwas aneignen

art history

to refer to sth

to take over sth

the taking over of sth

to develop sth

readymade

notorious

fountain

to sign sth

pedestal

extensive

lobster

to appear

to reproduce

aim

therefore

meaning

familiar

to raise

authenticity

Page 8

According to Parker, the piece is 'a comment on the claustrophobic nature of relationships.' An artwork can affect many people in different ways, sometimes provoking controversy and outrage. Our values can change with time and how we appreciate art and culture. In 1913, one version of The Kiss was exhibited at Lewes Town Hall in Sussex where local people objected to it so much that it had to be surrounded by a railing and covered with a sheet.

Similarly, Cornelia Parker's artwork was vandalised when a visitor to Tate Britain cut the string with scissors. Some would say that this act itself was an artistic intervention. Read more about this act in an article in *The Guardian*:

Rodin's lovers bound with a mile of string

Maev Kennedy, arts and heritage correspondent
Wednesday February 26, 2003

Guardian

The lovers, carved passionately embracing a century ago by Rodin, were yesterday bound even more closely together with a mile of string, by the contemporary artist Cornelia Parker.

Parker, who recently attracted the wrath of Britain's brass band fraternity over a piece made for the Victoria and Albert Museum from crushed musical instruments, is one of the stars of Days Like These, the triennial exhibition of British contemporary art which opens today at Tate Britain.

She intends her binding of the lovers - done with careful guidance from the Tate's curators, to avoid any possibility of damage to one of the most famous and popular works in the Tate collection - to symbolise the complexity of desire, suffocating as well as passionate.

It also contains an art historical reference: in 1942 the artist Marcel Duchamp used a mile of string to criss-cross a gallery space, so that visitors had to pick their way through his cobweb to gain access to a major exhibition of surrealist art.

Days Like These, Tate Triennial Exhibition of Contemporary British Art 2003, Tate Britain, until May 26.

Guardian Unlimited © Guardian News and Media Limited 2007

QUESTION: What do you think is the artistic value in Cornelia Parker's version of Rodin's famous sculpture?

claustrophobic

relationship

to affect sb

differnet

controversy

outrage

to appreciate sth

to object to sth

to surround

railing

to cover

sheet

similarly

to vandalise

scissors

passionately

century

recently

to attract

wrtah

brass band fraternity = Vereinigung der Blaskapellen

to crush

to intend

to guide

to avoid

possibility

to suffocate

cobweb

to gain access

famous

Page 9

Parker used a mile of string to bind the lovers. Her piece also makes an art historical reference to the artist Marcel Duchamp who we will look at later in more detail. In 1942, Duchamp exhibited in a major *Surrealist* exhibition where he used a mile of string to entangle visitors and hinder their movements in the gallery.

Surrealist

The Surrealist movement originated in Paris in the 1920s. In the manifesto launching the group in 1924, the poet André Breton wrote that Surrealism aimed to reveal 'the real functioning of thought'. This meant finding ways of bypassing conventional reason and rationality, in order to explore the potentially limitless capacity of the mind to imagine, dream and invent. An exhibition on this movement was held at Tate Modern in 2002.

Page 10

This sculpture is by Sarah Lucas, a British artist who has also reworked Rodin's *The Kiss* with the same title. Lucas has juxtaposed everyday objects and transformed discarded found materials to represent the two lovers. See if you can recognise the materials or objects Lucas has used to make this sculpture.



to entangle

to hinder

to originate

to launch

to reveal

to bypass

conventional

reason

to explore

limit

limitless

capacity

to invent

juxtaposed

to discard

to recognise