

TOK Knowledge Framework – The arts

Methodology

Spoken, visual, movement, film, drama, dance, theatre, literature...

What are the codes and conventions of art? How do we understand them and how do we understand and recognize meaning?

How is meaning made?

What is the role of memory or imagination in the arts?

How is art made?

Connection between the arts and belief- advertising, film, literature, folk songs.

Codes and conventions

The arts involve personal knowledge and materials and imagination and creativity.

Concepts and Language

What role does language play in the arts?

Is there a universal language?

Different cultures and traditions use different codes and conventions.

Is it possible to translate from one discipline or media to another?

Self expression Imagination social/ political commentary zeitgeist audience language

What makes a valid theme or idea in the arts?

What knowledge can the arts bring?

What is the role of conventions in the arts?

The arts

Historical Development

Techniques change and develop and improve (?) over time.

Relationship between the arts and history.

Relationship between the arts and religion/ politics/ wider culture and beliefs.

Use of the arts for recording and praising

The changing social status of the arts.

Developments in technology drive and develop the media – word processing on computers, development of paint technologies, development of film and photography (digital media)

The arts show human developments.

An understanding of art history enables to understand current concerns/ values/ practices.

Scope and Application

What are the arts?

What, if any social function do the arts perform?

How/can does art shape belief?

What is the relationship between the arts and religion?

What is the role of society in determining what is art?

What is the relationship between art and culture and tradition?

What is the relationship between art and morality?

How is value determined in the arts? (what is good and what is bad?)

Documentary – the meeting of history and art/

Self expression – what precisely do we mean by this? Are the arts therapeutic? If so what do we mean precisely?

Can the arts form a body of social commentary and criticism?

What can we learn from the arts?

Spreading/ sharing a message?

Art is an important historical source or reference.

Social function of art.

The role of society and consensus in deciding what is art.

Links to personal knowledge

What is the relationship between an individual's knowledge and the knowledge of a wider group or community?

Recording history

Only have responsibilities to one's self

The relationship between the maker, the art work and the audience.

Can the arts help us understand our selves?

What is the role of empathy in the arts?

Can art shape our personal view of the world?

Knowledge Questions

Are the arts a system of knowledge?

What is the relationship between the art work and the maker?

What is the importance of form in an artwork?

What is an artwork?

Is everything we do art?

How does language evolve in the arts?

What makes an authority in the art?

How is art used as a form of social critique?

How do evolving media impact on the development of the arts and what we consider art? (Think about the internet, film, photography...)

Is there a universal language in the arts?

What is the relationship between reason and emotion in the arts?

How can we know the dancer from the dance?

Do the arts involve thinking in different ways? (as opposed to other AOK such as science or maths?)

Are aesthetic judgments purely subjective?

What is the importance of form in art work?

Do the arts enlarge what it is possible to think?