

How to talk about ART

Visiting an ART GALLERY

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Тема: Искусство. Посещение картинной галереи

Класс: 9

Where?

- Foyer
- Café
- Shop (gift shop; book shop)
- The separate room



What will you see?

- Pictures/paintings (oil on canvas/wood/panel; watercolour)
- Sculptures/statues (stone, metal, wood)
- Photographs (black and white, colour)
- Installations (modern, experimental)

Information

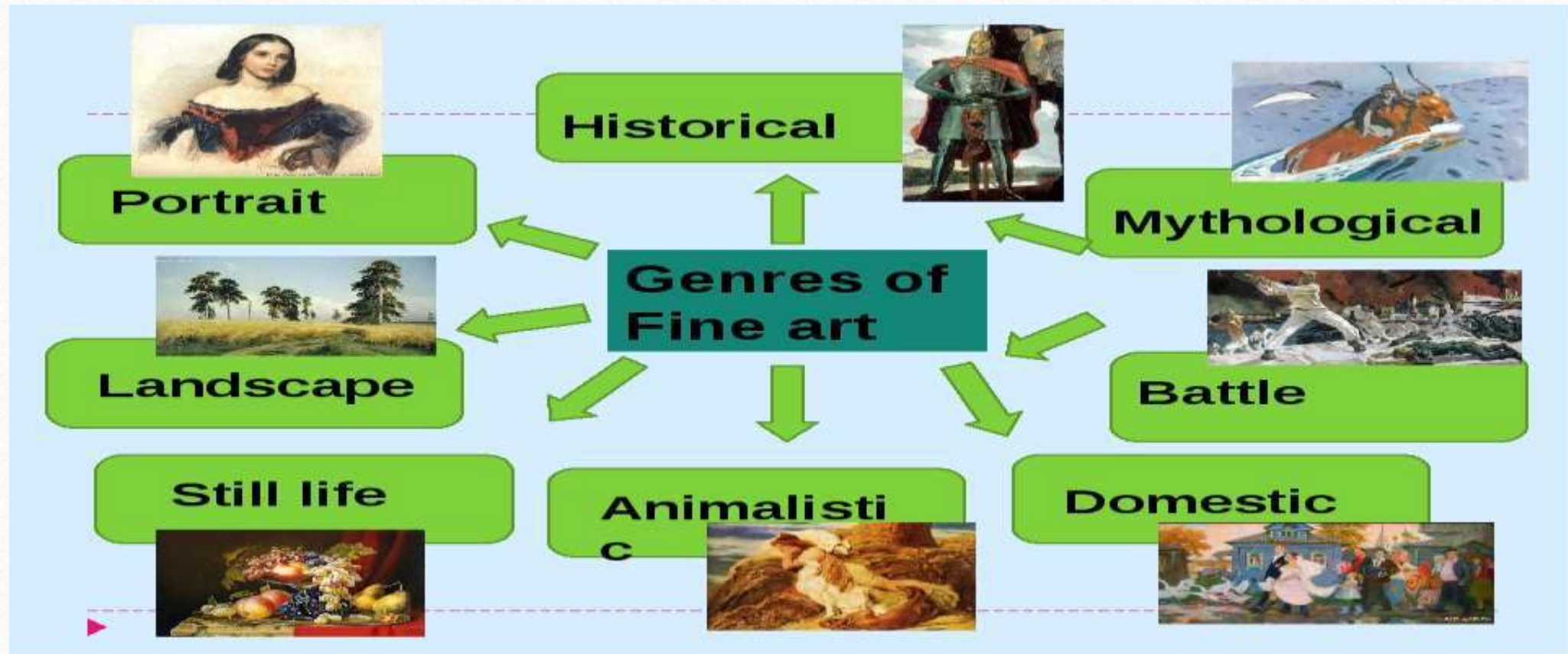
- Who was the artist who made this?
- Was it a man or a woman?
- When did they live?
- How long ago?
- Are they still alive now?
- What country did they come from?

You can always look at the written information

Sometimes you have to decide:

Do I read that first, and then look at the work of art,
or will I look at the work of art first to get my first
impressions and think: “What is this all about?”
and then look at that

Different types/genres



portrait

a human figure - famous or not

To do a portrait of



landscape

Scenery (outside world)

Seascape (you can see sea with some ships on it and maybe a little bit of land or beach)

scenery



seascape



cityscape/townscape

Where you're seeing buildings and a city, maybe a river going through



Traditionally landscape is a countryside



Still life

That is things like fruit, and flowers, and any kinds of objects, maybe a bowl of fruit just put together; often on a tabletop and the artist just paints a picture



Genre painting

- Scenes from everyday life
- People inside their home or in the street



History

- Events: battle or some political event
- Mythology



Abstract

- Modern
- Not representational



Subject

- Famous person
- Event
- Story

Colours

- Bright
- Muted
- Full of limited range/spectrum

If the colours are pale, they are called “muted”

Has the artist used all those colours or only some of them?

Texture

- Surface: rough or smooth; brushstrokes
- You have to be careful; not to touch

Other things

- You shouldn't talk too loudly because you might disturb other people, so if you're talking to your friend, don't talk so that everybody in the room can hear things like that
- In front of some pictures there's a little barrier, so it keeps you at a distance

Size

- Large
- Medium
- Small



Personal Reaction

- Happy
- Sad
- Amused
- Confused
- Irritated



Thoughts

- ? I wonder what the artist is trying to say?
I've never seen anything like that before!
That's quite an interesting/unusual/ challenging work of art.
- V Wow! That's amazing! I really like that!
- X That's isn't really my cup of tea.
It's not my favourite style/subject.

If you need a break

- You're getting a bit tired
- Can we sit down for a while?
- Shall we go to the café?
- Shall we look around the shop?

Thanks for coming – it's been great! See you again soon