

Sample Student

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English 151A

**Sample** Definition Paragraph

Art is created through the imaginative minds of talented people. Art is not simply decoration; it's about expressing ideas. Art is not a sense, but is experienced by all the senses. Art is everywhere; it is sewn into the fabric of our daily lives. Astonishing ideas are formed through art, and art can be made into miraculous things. Art can be a piece of lint arranged in a child's diorama, or it can be a humble sculpture made out of mud and hay. Paintings, sculpture, music, dance, and even buildings are some basic forms of art. There are prestigious artists such as Leonardo Da Vinci. Da Vinci's well known painting of the Mona Lisa became controversial, yet admirable for many other artists as it served as a model for many other great paintings to follow it. Throughout history, diverse cultures have developed different kinds of art to express their cultural identity. Ceramics and paper cut sculpture originated from the Mayans. Many others have articulated form on canvas with oil paints as well, and their works remain as a testament or a kind of living memory for the artists themselves, but also the subjects depicted in their artwork. The works of Van Gogh, Picasso, and Michaelangelo are highly prized in famous museums throughout the world for this very reason. Symbolism and reflection is also a primary function of art. In Van Gogh's "Starry Night," the stars and sky are luminous and wide, awe inspiring, perhaps meant to express the wonders of God's works. Children are taught through art. Kindergarten to college, we experience the impact but also the usefulness of art through arts education and performance. From coloring to architecture, art is humanity, it is us being honest and impulsive. Art can lead anyone into a future unbound, strewn with shape and color and opportunity. Although art is often described as something that's almost miraculously beautiful, there is also much technical ability that goes into creating it, not just magic. Dancing and singing is art to the eyes of many. Choreographed dances or ballet dances are examples of visual art, gorgeous when performed well. Think of a classic dance by someone like Mikhail

Baryshnikov, a famous Russian ballet dancer who emigrated to America in the early 1980s and went on to perform some of the greatest roles in ballets here with some of the most prestigious ballet companies. But, and this is true of all artistic endeavor, there is no actual final masterpiece to end all other masterpieces – that's what's so phenomenal about art. Everything that is created is a masterpiece of its own, but only until another comes along by the same artist, or more likely by another artist altogether. That's what art is. There is no fixed definition of what art is, or what it can or might be. Art can be anything and everything created by a brilliant imagination.