

## Express Yourself

### Expressive Portraits

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Do you ever make a funny face when someone takes your photograph? One hundred years ago, it was rare to see facial expressions like frowning, laughing, or smiling in portraits. Back then, sitters in portraits wanted to look calm and dignified. Some people thought that any expression in a portrait could make the sitter look ugly or unnatural. At the Getty Museum there are a few exceptions to this rule. Some artists wanted to study the real expressions that people make.

Your teacher or chaperone will direct you to look at one work of art in this gallery.

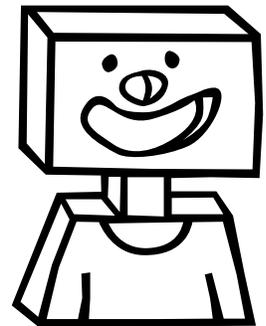
#### Look closely at the portrait.

1. With a partner, re-create the expression and pose you see in the portrait.
2. What emotion do you think this person is feeling?

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3. Discuss with a partner: When you have your portrait taken, is it ever appropriate to make a funny face? When is it inappropriate? How is this different from portraits of the past?

4. Do you ever make the following expressions in photographs? Are any of these considered inappropriate today?

Expression	Ever done this in a photo?	Is it appropriate to make this expression? Why, or why not?
Yawn		
Frown		
Smile		
Laugh		