

Post-Visit Activity

Investigating the Past: What Art Can Tell Us

Your Name _____

WRITING ASSIGNMENT

You will use your research, experiences, and notes from your visit to the Getty Villa to write a historical story. Before you begin writing, do the following exercise (Part I) to prepare.

PART 1

I. **SELECT** ONE object that fascinated you the most at the Getty Villa:

II. **NAME** five people who may have interacted with, created, or influenced the use of this object throughout history.

1

2

3

4

5

III. **SELECT** ONE of the people you listed:

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You will write your historical story from the point-of-view of the person who interacted with the object you selected. (You may also choose to write from the point-of-view of the object itself.)

IV. **LIST** the following information:

Name of person:

Name and description of object:

Object's place of origin:

Setting of your story:

Voice (Whose story is it? What does the voice sound like?):

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V. What **SPECIAL QUALITY** or **CHARACTERISTIC** does your main character have?
(Remember, your main character can be the person or the object itself.)

VI. What **ROLE** does the object play in the story?

VII. What is **REVEALED** by the main character (person or object) that no one else would know?

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VIII. What other **DETAILS** will you add to the story?

IX. **WRITE** the first sentence of your story below. It should "hook" your readers or listeners, and allow them to see the object in a "new way."

PART 2

Now, **WRITE** a one- to two-page story. Be creative. You are telling the story as if you were that person or object (the main character), so put yourself in the place of the person or object, and think how you would feel or respond. Use the type of words the character might use. Stay true to the voice of your character and your object's history.

