




Art

What do landscape paintings look like?

Think

1 What do you know about landscapes?

Learn

2  Listen and read.

What do landscape paintings look like?

Landscapes in art are paintings of outdoor scenes. Landscape artists paint sunny, rainy and snowy scenes at different times of the year. Some artists paint blue skies with clouds, other artists paint dark skies in storms. Landscapes of the countryside can have forests, hills and lakes. Not all artists paint the countryside, however. Some artists prefer seas and oceans, while others prefer buildings and streets. A painting of the sea or ocean is called a **seascape**. A painting of a scene from a city is called a **cityscape**.

How do we describe landscape paintings?

The part nearest to you is called the **foreground**. Artists usually paint objects in the foreground bigger than those at the back of the landscape. The part at the back is called the **background**. The background of a landscape looks far from you. This is because artists paint the objects smaller than the objects in the foreground. We can also describe the colours. Artists use yellow, orange and red to make their landscapes look **warm**. They use blue and grey to make them look **cold**.

background

landscape

foreground

cityscape

seascape

check

3 Circle the correct word.

- 1 Landscapes are paintings of outdoor **spaces** / **scenes** / **streets**.
- 2 Landscapes of the **countryside** / **sea** / **city** can have hills and rivers in them.
- 3 Seascapes show scenes with **streets** / **seas** / **snow**.
- 4 The part of the landscape **behind** / **opposite** / **nearest** to you is the foreground.
- 5 The part of a landscape **next to** / **far from** / **in front of** you is the background.

4  Work with a partner. Describe one of the paintings from Activity 2.

This painting is a seascape /
landscape / cityscape.

It looks old / modern /
sunny / cold / stormy.

The colours the
artist used are ...

In the foreground /
background you
can see ...

Direct Recall Questions:

1. According to the paragraph, what is the definition of landscape paintings?
2. What types of outdoor scenes can landscape artists depict?
3. What is the difference between a landscape, a seascape, and a cityscape?
4. What is the part of the landscape painting closest to you called?
5. What is the part of the landscape painting at the back called?
6. How do artists typically paint objects in the foreground compared to objects in the background?
7. What colors do artists use to make their landscapes look warm?
8. What colors do artists use to make their landscapes look cold?

Comparative Questions:

9. Compare a countryside landscape with a landscape that depicts the sea or a city.
10. What is the difference in how artists depict objects in the foreground and background in terms of size?
11. How do the colors used in warm landscapes differ from those used in cold landscapes?

Application Questions:

12. If you are looking at a landscape painting that prominently features a vast ocean, what type of painting is it called?
13. Imagine you are an artist painting a landscape of your area. What elements might you place in the foreground and the background?
14. Describe a landscape painting that uses warm colors. What feeling might this painting evoke?
15. Describe a landscape painting that uses cold colors. What feeling might this painting evoke?

Open-ended Questions:

16. Why do you think artists prefer to paint different types of landscapes (countryside, sea, city)?
17. How can colors affect a viewer's feelings when looking at a landscape painting?
18. In your opinion, what is the most important thing an artist should consider when painting a landscape?
19. How can a landscape painting reflect a particular culture or environment?