GCE 2004 June Series



Mark Scheme

History of Art (Component Code HOA1)

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Dr Michael Cresswell Director General

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- 1. Domenico Veneziano, **The Annunciation**, between 1438 and 1461.
- (a) Comment on the stylistic features of this painting.
 - simple and pure composition: very few ornamental features, limited to flowers, capitals; plain wall surfaces/figures' robes; room lacks detail/furniture
 - geometric: rectangular shapes dominate; architecture, floor, doors, windows, bench; classical references if defined
 - clarity: evenly lit so that each item/element is equally clear/legible; crisp linear detail on figures/capitals, floral arch/garden
 - decorative/pretty: delicate pastel colours; elongated, elegant Madonna; slender columns
 - undramatic: serene, calm, devout; poses of figures; even lighting; relatively high tonality; pale colours
 - ordered; balanced.
- (b) Comment on the representation of three-dimensional space in this painting.
 - extremely clear articulation of space and figures' position in it; accurate linear perspective; separate and distinct spatial areas compartments
 - shallow foreground plane emphasised by prominent entablature and back wall of room; indicated by linear perspective of floor paving/rows of columns; space cut off on right by wall
 - Subsidiary, partly enclosed, lower (in height) spaces to right and left; indicated by raised platform, visible ceiling, projecting entablature, row of diminishing columns depicted in perspective, (framing of space)
 - path through arched aperture leads into a narrow distant deep space cut off by floral arch/door/gate; path continues perspective lines of paving in foreground; arched aperture frames view of deep space into garden
 - blue sky/glimpses of grassed areas/path crossing horizontally indicate continuation of outdoor space in garden beyond room
 - Madonna 'framed' and isolated in own separate, semi-enclosed space
 - haloes represented in perspective, foreshortened as is chair
 - consistent light source, models forms, columns/figures.

- 2. Edgar Degas, Hélène Rouart in her Father's Study, c.1886.
- (a) How has the artist represented the figure and the setting in this painting?
 - figure: standing, informally behind chair, left arm and both hands supported by chair back; body slightly turned to left
 - serious, solemn, not smiling; melancholy, faraway look, eyes don't meet our gaze
 - figure: dressed in everyday clothes, not idealised, in familiar surroundings; 'unposed'; hands prominent
 - figure: surrounded by contents of father's study, art collection, papers; setting/objects almost as important as sitter; adds to personal/intimate atmosphere
 - father's empty chair and papers prominent in foreground; denotes his absence, contributes to sense of his personality/profession
 - informality of setting; cropped, informal composition.
- (b) Describe the use of colour in this painting.
 - limited range
 - warm, earthy, oranges/browns/pinks dominate; in harmony with sitter's red hair/ 'Venetian' colouring, focal point of painting; perhaps at its strongest in sitter's hair (with light catching top of head), and chair back
 - complementary contrast of blue/orange; cool/warm contrast
 - tonally muted; muddy colours; frame/contents of glass cabinet, wall behind figure; strongest hues in figure, Chinese wall-hanging and painting behind left shoulder
 - image united by overall rich, subdued colour which contributes to intimate, sympathetic atmosphere/mood, sombre
 - naturalistic use of colour.

- 3. Andrea del Verrocchio, **David**, c.1465.
- (a) Discuss the representation and interpretation of the figure in this sculpture.
 - idealised yet naturalistic with classical references; elegant pose; slim proportions
 - generally relaxed but muscles on left arm and hand tensed
 - proud, confident, heroic, looks out directly
 - elegantly dressed in Roman style breastplate, kilt and high boots
 - pose: weight on right leg, right arm by side gripping lowered sword; left arm firmly on hip suggesting triumphant man of action
 - youthful/athletic
 - victorious; standing over slain head.
- (b) How have the techniques of modelling and casting been exploited in this sculpture?
 - excessively smooth patina and highly polished surface contributes to elegance and refinement
 - sharp detail on hair, features, decorative details on dress, Goliath's head adds to realism
 - rippling muscles on right arm/folds of skirt made possible by modelling
 - upright, unsupported figure, projecting arm and sword made possible by tensile strength of bronze; angularity
 - association of bronze male figure with classical heroes
 - separate casting of Goliath's head and sword.

- 4. Georg Baselitz, <u>Untitled (Figure with Raised Arm)</u>, c.1982-4.
- (a) Discuss the sculptor's interpretation of the human figure.
 - ungendered/ambiguous gender
 - unrelaxed, tense
 - standing straight and erect; stable, frontal pose, provided by broad blocks below feet
 - ironically heroic; juxtaposition of heroic stance/gesture with primitive style
 - defiant/emphatic gesture of left raised arm, clenched fist; reference to national socialism/ African gesture of surrender; right arm stiff by side
 - · excessively simplified, primitive, childlike; minimal anatomical details
 - colour used non-naturalistically.
- (b) How have the materials and techniques used affected the appearance of this sculpture?
 - long, narrow shape of trunk/wood reflected in proportions of figure; inherent qualities of wood conducive to bold treatment, this exploited to create jagged rough hewn quality; non-European associations
 - excessively crude technique; primitive; deliberately avoids appearance of manual dexterity
 - aggressive, brutal technique; visible almost random power saw/axe incisions marks; rough edges
 - free, apparently spontaneous use of colour on torso, hands, knees and face adds to uninhibited untutored style
 - unrefined use of materials and techniques.

- 5. Deane and Woodward, The University Museum, Oxford, 1855-60.
- (a) Analyse the composition of the façade of this building.
 - horizontal emphasis: four horizontal bands, basement, lower and upper storeys, roof
 - bands all run continuously through central tower apart from at roof level; further emphasised by band of small paired windows above dormers and by banding of different coloured stone
 - central tower provides vertical contrast; divides façade into three
 - tower itself has four clearly articulated elements-arched entrance, triple light window, double-light window above, capped with high triangular shaped roof
 - symmetry (ordered): three bands of six windows on each side of central tower on each horizontal band
 - but not absolutely aligned between lower and upper storeys, nor perfectly symmetrically placed in lower storey
 - flat façade with minimal projection of central tower
 - regular repeated pointed triangular shapes with little/slight variation: windows, roof of tower, gables of main block roof; relieved by larger, echoing features of tower.
- (b) Identify the architectural elements and decorative features of this building.

Principal Architectural elements

- tower with high roof; incorporates decorative features on triple arch (larger version of windows on second storey); roundels and coloured stone on upper storey; cornice.
- steeply pitched roof incorporates bands of plain triangular dormer windows and smaller vents.
- polychromatic stone banding
- window colonettes.

Decorative features

- bands of repeated pointed arched windows both architectural elements and decorative features
- windows on second storey treated more decoratively than lower storey: decorative coloured stone surrounds arches; circular windows above twinned windows
- simpler, less ornate, triangular gabled dormers and vents in roof
- carved portal.

- 6. Richard. Rogers and Partners, <u>Lloyds' of London Headquarters</u>, 1978-86.
- (a) Describe the appearance and composition of this building.
 - irregular, asymmetrical group of series of clearly distinguished separate blocks/elements/towers; not monolithic
 - two tallest towers have projections at top, enclose/frame arched atrium and subsidiary blocks/elements
 - complex: varying roof heights, broken silhouette; repeated units; variety of shapes/elements/surfaces
 - verticals dominate: two tallest towers; concrete supports; pipes/ducts/lift shafts
 - contrast of rectangular elements, relieved by arched form of atrium and rounded/cylindrical profile of staircases; portholes in rectangular units
 - mechanistic appearance, machine-like/industrial
 - inside out.
- (b) Comment on the use of materials in this building.
 - materials and related structural techniques not disguised/exposed; principal element in style of building
 - materials convey faith in future and celebration of science and advanced technology; important to established/traditional client.
 - properties of materials exploited aesthetically and for legibility: contrast of opaque clad elements with glazed areas (servant and served spaces); smooth, reflective surface of stainless steel; pattern of glass/steel atrium; repeated elements of prefabricated units
 - materials exploited for functional properties: glazing for maximum light; reinforced concrete for structural strength; prefabricated units for efficiency of construction; stainless steel for durability, exterior pipes/ducts/lifts
 - materials exploited for flexibility/obsolescence/easy maintenance: accessible mechanical parts; exterior pipes/ducts/lifts; permanent cranes on roofs of towers.