Student name: Group:

Topic..... Abstraction XX, c.
Timeframe.....1906, around – Present Day
Topic Focus.....The concept of Abstraction

Teaching material: The instructor will provide video materials for educational purposes. ~15'

Background information: Abstraction is neither a style nor a movement; it can exist in all art to some degree. Various dictionaries define abstraction as "freedom from representational qualities in art" and "not depicting things pictorially." Another description indicates that abstraction occurs when an artist has "removed elements of an object to create a more simplified form" or produced something that "bears no reference to external reality."

While an artist may have a real object in mind when painting, that object can be represented as stylised, distorted, or exaggerated, using colours and textures to communicate a feeling rather than produce a replica. It is more about how the beauty of forms and colours can prevail over representational accuracy.

Abstract art has existed since the Stone Age in the form of prehistoric cave drawings of dots and symbols. However, it wasn't until the late 19th century that artists began breaking away from dominant classical realism (representing a recognisable subject), with artists such as Monet leading the Impressionist movement. This style, however, remained firmly rooted in reality, unlike the later abstraction scene.

Discussion: How would you describe *abstraction*? (10')

Main Activity: Find a realistic, unmanipulated photograph of an object. It could be a chair, a hanger, a bottle, shoes, or a piece of fruit. Search for the same object, represented by an artist in an abstract way. The time period, artist, or country is irrelevant. Answer the following questions:

- What is in the abstract work that makes the object recognizable?
- What additional information does the abstract work convey that cannot be seen in the photograph?
- What has the artist done to make the depicted object less realistic (e.g., exaggeration, distortion, lack of perspective, colour change)?
- What elements of the original object have been preserved in the abstract work?

Group Activity: Share the selected abstract image with the group, along with the responses and comments derived from this activity.

Relevant Texts: "Abstraction and Empathy" by Wilhelm Worringer (1908) is one of the earliest essays to establish a theory on abstraction in art. In this text, Worringer argues that abstraction is an emotional response to anxiety and uncertainty in modern society, allowing artists and viewers to experience a sense of order and harmony in a chaotic and uncertain world.

"Abstract Art" by Wassily Kandinsky was first published in the journal Der Blaue Reiter Almanach (1912). This text is considered one of the earliest writings on abstract art and reflects on the role of abstract art in society and its capacity to express emotions and feelings. Its publication in Der Blaue Reiter Almanach was significant because it helped establish abstraction as a legitimate and respected artistic movement.

1. Notes on ABSTRACCIÓN.

3. Key words and Key artworks.

2. Notes on how abstraction is been represented in art.

4. Summary of teacher's presentation and General Conclusions.