

Creating an Artistic Representation of My Culture

SUGGESTED LEARNING STRATEGIES: Graphic Organizer,
Drafting, Self-Editing

Assignment

Your assignment is to create a three-dimensional artistic representation of your culture and compose a written text that explains the significance of two of the symbols you have chosen to represent yourself.

Steps

Planning

1. Use the graphic organizer on the next page (or one that you create) to generate a list of symbols that represent the cultures with which you identify. You may also draw on the “Where I’m From” poem you wrote for Activity 1.9.
2. Select two symbols from each category (a total of ten) and think of an artistic method for making each symbol. You may use painting, sculpture, collage, found materials, watercolors, cut paper, ink, pastels, and/or actual artifacts or souvenirs, and so on. Remember that your final product must be three-dimensional, not a flat surface.

Creating

3. Collect and/or create the objects for your artistic representation.
4. Then choose two symbols from the ten you created that are especially meaningful to you. Write one or two paragraphs that explain the significance of the two symbols.

Refining

5. Experiment with various arrangements until you find a way to display the ten objects that is aesthetically pleasing and engages your audience.
6. As you look at your artistic representation, try to anticipate questions that your audience might have. Practice answering the questions aloud.
7. When you revise your written explanation of the significance of your symbols, try to incorporate answers to those anticipated questions into your explanation. Include in your draft an explanation of how you organized your artistic representation and why you chose to map it in that order. As you revise, carefully consider your word choice and revise as needed based on your purpose, audience, and genre.
8. Edit your written explanation using the tools available to you to present a technically sound document.
9. Be prepared to share and explain your artistic representation of your culture to a small group or in a gallery walk setting.
10. End-of-Task Reflection: Did people read my symbols in the way that I thought they would? Explain. How might I map, or organize, my artistic representation differently to better communicate my ideas?

Review the detailed lists that you made for the Circles of Influence activity (Activity 1.9). Consider those details as well as new ones that come to mind as you list objects or artifacts that represent your culture or cultures. List as many details or items as you can in each box. You may want to add additional categories.

Family	Sports or Hobbies	Clothing	Education
Food	Music or Art	Religion	Gender Roles

Highlight the five categories on the organizer that most strongly identify and define you culturally. Choose two items from each category to include in your project. (Remember, you have to represent them artistically.)

Then choose two items that you feel represent you in a significant way and explain how they symbolize you culturally.

SCORING GUIDE

Scoring Criteria	Exemplary	Proficient	Emerging
Artistic Representation	<p>The three-dimensional art form can be characterized as unique, thought provoking, and visually engaging.</p> <p>The representation demonstrates an extensive effort to include an assortment of symbols from a variety of categories and to organize them in a way that enables the audience to make sense of the piece as a whole.</p>	<p>The three-dimensional art form can be characterized as interesting and visually pleasing.</p> <p>The representation demonstrates an effort to include symbols from different categories that are organized in a logical way.</p>	<p>The three-dimensional art form is attempted, yet it may be characterized as confusing or visually distracting.</p> <p>The representation demonstrates little effort to include symbols from different categories, and the symbols may be disorganized.</p>
Explanatory Text	<p>The explanatory text clearly and thoroughly explains the meaning of two symbols from the artistic representation, including their relationship to the artist's culture(s), as well as the significance of the artistic method chosen to portray each symbol.</p> <p>The explanation demonstrates the author's keen ability to anticipate viewers' questions.</p>	<p>The explanatory text discusses the meaning of two symbols from the artistic representation, including the relationship to the artist's culture(s), as well as the significance of the artistic method chosen to portray each symbol.</p> <p>The explanation demonstrates the author's basic ability to anticipate viewers' questions.</p>	<p>The explanatory text attempts to discuss the meaning of two symbols from the artistic representation but may not adequately show the relationship to the artist's culture(s) or the significance of the artistic method chosen to portray each symbol.</p> <p>The explanation does not demonstrate the author's ability to anticipate viewers' questions.</p>

SCORING GUIDE

Scoring Criteria	Exemplary	Proficient	Emerging
Evidence of the Writing Process	There is extensive evidence that the explanatory text reflects the various stages of the writing process.	There is evidence that the explanatory text reflects stages of the writing process.	There is little or no evidence that the explanatory text has undergone stages of the writing process.
Reflection	The reflection shows a thorough metacognitive analysis describing viewers' and readers' reactions to the artist's representation and how revisions could be made accordingly.	The reflection adequately shows a metacognitive analysis explaining and describing viewers' and readers' reactions and how revisions could be made accordingly.	The reflection attempts to show some metacognitive analysis describing viewers' and readers' reactions but not thoroughly enough to explain how revisions could be made accordingly.
Additional Criteria			

Comments: _____
