

## **Art History**

Student's Name Professor's Name Course Title Date



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Linda finds the depiction of modern condition as the most significant aspect of Seurat's artwork. Specifically, the author points to the modern conditions including alienation of individuals from the society, the experience of living in a community with a spectacle, and the replacement of value and mass production by a market economy where people made a living. On the other hand, Clayson finds the illustration of gender as the most significant aspect of Seurat's artwork. Clayson wants to make people take into consideration the aspect of gender with massive consideration. I think Linda is trying to demonstrate that the Grande Jatte is a true illustration of modern activities within the society. The author is trying to show that this artwork captures all aspects of modern living such as mass production and modern sciences in the most effective manner. Conversely, I think Linda is trying to demonstrate that the artwork is an effective illustration of gender with a focus on family units within the society. This is especially with its focus on leisure activities with their effect on families in the society.

Evidence is important for any piece of writing because it enables readers connect with the written work. Linda uses numerous pieces of evidence to explain Seurat's *Grande Jatte* and its relationship to modernity. Firstly, Linda uses iconographic evidence in her argument. This is shown by the pictorial representation at the top part of the paper. This contributes to the argument in the sense that it enables readers follow her statements while drawing comparisons from the pictorial representation. Secondly, she uses stylistic evidence in her argument. For example, she refers to allegorical forms of art and their differences with this one. This is vital in enhancing the argument in line with relevant comparisons and distinction between styles employed in the promotion of art. Thirdly, Linda uses the historical

context as part of her evidence in this argument. For example, she refers to the classical era of art where there were famous artists such as Puvis. This is vital to the argument because it enables the reader understand the actual emergence of the piece of work under discussion. It draws the path that led to Seurat's artwork and its illustration of the modern happenings.

Clayson also utilizes various pieces of work in the argument. Firstly, she uses historical context evidence in enhancing the argument. For example, she refers to the observations of historians in the 19th century France. This is important to the argument because it makes it clearer and puts it in the modern context appropriately. Secondly, she utilizes iconographic evidence. For example, she refers to the appearance of the picture and the demonstration of different genders in the picture. She emphasizes that there are three pairs of mothers and daughters in the picture with the absence of men. This is crucial to the argument because it gives the reader a clear view of what is being discussed. The third piece of evidence used is also historical. For example, she tries to show the importance of the Sunday holiday to Parisians. This point to the historical views of Parisians and their observation of significant days in their lives in line with their beliefs and religion.

The point of agreement between both authors is that Seurat's argument is unique in its own sense. It brings out the required message on modernity and gender in the society in the clearest manner possible compared to the past works. As an individual interested in art history and early art movements, I think Linda's argument exhibits strengths in terms of the use of various pieces of evidence. Linda's argument is easily understandable for any reader because it captures many pieces of evidence that have been illustrated by Seurat's art in relation to modernity. For instance, she

talks about the modern economy and mass production as it happens in the modern economy. This draws clear relationship between art history and the illustration of modern conditions. I did not identify any weakness with Linda's argument. In line with my interest in the history of art and the contributions of art to the modern world, I was pleased with Clayson's reference to gender blindness in her argument. It is true that people do not always see the gender depictions in any piece of work. She moves on to emphasize this point before going ahead with the argument that this artwork makes references to family units and the manner in which leisure could have contributed to the falling apart of family units. Again, her argument is explained in simple words that are easily understandable among readers.

In conclusion, both authors bring out highly persuasive arguments. They were able to make their points clear and understandable to any reader in the argument. It is worth acknowledging that the evidence presented by both authors supports their conclusions. For instance, Linda's evidence supports her conclusion that Seurat's work is the original illustration of modernity and the nature of living in the modern society. Additionally, Clyson's evidence supports her conclusion that family units and the Sunday holiday interfere with one another. The Sunday holidays tend to affect family units in terms of the unity of individuals. My observation of the work of art confirms the authors' conclusions in relation to the work. They draw appropriate conclusions relating to the work hence making their overall arguments consistent and understandable among readers.