

Paper 1 Art & Nature: Practise examination questions

NB. These questions have been compiled through discussion amongst schoolteachers of A level Art History, and not by any contact with the examination board. They are not exhaustive of all permutations, but intended to be representative and provide a basis on which teachers can set essay questions for their students in school.

Section A	
Painting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See AQA HART1 past questions
Sculpture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See AQA HART1 past questions
Architecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See AQA HART1 past questions
Section B part (a): 'Explore / compare and contrast...' (12 marks) <i>Suggested time 20 minutes.</i>	
Nature: One e.g. beyond European tradition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how 2 x buildings take inspiration from nature. (Edexcel sample question) Explore how 2 x 3D works take inspiration from nature. Explore how 2 x 2D works take inspiration from nature.
Nature: One e.g. pre/post 1850	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how 2 x buildings take inspiration from nature. Explore how 2 x 3D works take inspiration from nature. Explore how 2 x 2D works take inspiration from nature.
Scope of works themes e.g. pre/ post 1850	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and contrast 2 examples that deal with Landscape (pre and post 1850) . Compare and contrast 2 examples that deal with animals (pre and post 1850) Compare and contrast 2 examples that deal with plants (pre and post 1850). Compare and contrast 2 examples that deal with the elements (pre and post 1850). Compare and contrast 2 examples that deal with the relationship between humans and nature (pre and post 1850).
Scope of works themes e.g. one beyond European tradition	As above
Specified artists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how two works by your specified painter take inspiration from nature Explore how two works by your specified sculptor take inspiration from nature Explore how two works by your specified architect take inspiration from nature

Other options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore / compare and contrast the ways two non-western works take inspiration from nature • Explore / compare and contrast the ways two western works take inspiration from nature • Explore / compare and contrast the ways two works pre-1850 take inspiration from nature • Explore / compare and contrast the ways two works post-1850 take inspiration from nature
<p>Section B part (b) ‘How far do you agree with this statement?’ 4 named examples and critical texts. (25 marks) Suggested time 40 minutes.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “An artist needs to experience nature at first hand in order to represent it successfully”. Hfdya? (named works pre and post 1850. Texts.) (<i>Edexcel sample question</i>) • The purpose of depicting nature is invariably to record reality. Hfdya? • There is always a symbolic/secondary meaning embedded in depictions of nature. • Depictions of nature must be beautiful. • All landscapes/seascapes reflect humanity’s awe at the power of nature? • There is no place for politics in depictions of nature. • Paintings of nature are a reflection of the artist/his or her times. • Social/cultural/political contexts have more influence over depictions of nature than neutral observation. • An artist always has to alter and adapt the appearance of nature to suit their materials and processes. • The practical functions of buildings tend to problematise their harmony with nature. • Paintings of nature are a reflection of the artist/his or her time. • How do works of art concerned with nature relate to the socio/cultural/political context in which they were made? • Artworks / buildings located within natural settings are always more in harmony with nature. • As nature is unchanging, the meaning or appearance of art inspired by nature does not change over time. • You need to be familiar with nature to interpret artworks inspired by nature. • How does the meaning of an artwork change over time/how and why might an art work be interpreted differently at different moments in history? • Depictions of nature should be scientific. • Industrialisation has changed the representation of nature forever. • Non-western artists have a more direct relationship with nature’.