

THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Art of English Teaching Notes

Introduction

There are five levels of self-access worksheets; Elementary, Pre-Intermediate, Intermediate, Upper-Intermediate and Advanced. For every level there are four worksheets, each based in a different gallery of the museum. Teachers with large classes (in excess of twelve students) are encouraged to divide their students into groups and to ask each group to work through the sheets in a different order. In this way, we can ensure that small groups take different paths around the museum, thereby avoiding overcrowding.

The self-access worksheets have a dual aim. Firstly, they encourage students to look closely at works on display through completing structures and achievable tasks. Secondly, they revise grammar points and vocabulary areas which students are taught in class.

Content

Here is a summary of the areas covered by the worksheets

Level	Gallery and theme			
Elementary	1 - Portraits (descriptions)	17 - Still life (language of quantity)	27 - Pottery (asking questions)	31 - Armour (simple past tense)
Pre-Intermediate	2 - Landscapes (past tenses)	8 - Describing a scene (Present continuous)	31 - Armour (what are you going to do?)	34 - Fans (comparing objects)
Intermediate	3 - Portraits (adjectives)	7 - Narrative paintings (telling a story)	26/27 - Pottery (past habits and customs)	21 - Ancient Greece (comparing and contrasting)

Upper Intermediate	5 - Painting Styles (Using adjectives)	2 - Morality painting (speculating on the future)	32 - Medieval/Renaissance art (Techniques of the trade)	28 - Pottery (Speculating about the past)
Advanced	7 - Symbolism (interpreting symbols)	15 - Seascapes (descriptive language)	6 - Paintings (giving opinions)	26/27 - Ceramics (subordinate clauses)

Guidance

We advise that you familiarise yourself with the worksheets before the visit, and adapt them if necessary to meet the needs of your students. Floor plans are available both on the museum website and from the museum itself, and may be useful for students and group leaders on the day.

Preparing your students well will ensure that they gain maximum benefit from the visit. This may involve introducing new vocabulary or revisiting concepts that they will use during their museum visit. We hope that students enjoy their visit to the museum and that it enhances their language learning too!