

The Joy of Art Museums #1

Do you like visiting art museums? _____ think that going _____ paintings is boring and _____. However, _____ simply _____ you don't know _____ enjoy art.

If you _____, your _____ artwork _____ much more enjoyable. Also, studies _____ opportunity to _____ attention, observation, and sense _____ beauty. Art is _____ and _____. So everybody _____ art and they _____. _____ . How can we _____ enjoy _____ time in a museum?

Do you like visiting art museums? Some of you may think that going through a lot of paintings is boring and exhausting. However, it might be simply because you don't know how to enjoy art.

If you know it, your encounter with an artwork will be much more enjoyable. Also, studies have shown that it is a great opportunity to improve your attention, observation, and sense of beauty. Art is both delightful and helpful. So everybody should love art and they just haven't found out about it yet. How can we better enjoy our time in a museum?

museum	まだ、今なお、それでも	improve	向上させる
boring	退屈な	attention	注意、注意力
exhausting	疲れさせる	observation	観察、観察力
encounter	出会い	sense of beauty	美意識、美的センス
enjoyable	楽しい	delightful	喜ばしい、楽しい
opportunity	機会	helpful	有用な、役に立つ

The Joy of Art Museums #2

In a museum, we _____ 17 seconds on average for one painting. However, _____ to _____ enjoy a piece of work. For example, “The Thames below Westminster” by Claude Monet is very beautiful _____ take a _____, you can enjoy _____ foggy London and the _____ on the _____. Of course, we don’t _____ time and energy to do this _____ every single painting, but we don’t have to. _____, you will not take all the _____. _____, you look _____ and only _____ you like. Similarly, we don’t have to enjoy all the paintings in a museum. Our time _____ are _____. _____ some paintings _____ you and others don’t. _____ we can _____, _____ wonderful enough?

In a museum, we only spend about 17 seconds on average for one painting. However, it is hardly enough to fully enjoy a piece of work. For example, “The Thames below Westminster” by Claude Monet is very beautiful even at a glance. But if you take a closer look, you can enjoy how it expresses foggy London and the delicate reflection on the water. Of course, we don’t have enough time and energy to do this with every single painting, but we don’t have to. When you go to a buffet, you will not take all the dishes. Instead, you look through them and only pick out ones you like. Similarly, we don’t have to enjoy all the paintings in a museum. Our time and attention are limited. Naturally some paintings touch you and others don’t. If we can find a couple of favorite works, isn’t that wonderful enough?

hardly	ほとんど～ない	reflection	反映、反射
glance	一瞥、チラ見	dish	料理
close	近い	similarly	同様に
express	表現する	limited	限られた
foggy	霧がかかった	naturally	自然に、当然ながら
delicate	繊細な	touch	感動させる

_____ find a _____ in a museum, you may start wondering what the right answer is. For example, “Woman Reading a Letter” by Johannes Vermeer _____ many questions. Is she _____? Why is she standing _____ reading a letter? _____? How does she _____? The painter _____ the answers, _____ the right answers is _____.

_____ is to carefully _____ the painting and _____ imagine the situation. _____ she is pregnant, what could be _____ letter? Is there any _____ to her feelings? _____ the letter? You can feel free to make a story _____, _____ doesn't _____ your story is right or _____. The _____ and imagining is _____ enjoyable and _____.

When you find a favorite piece of work in a museum, you may start wondering what the right answer is. For example, “Woman Reading a Letter” by Johannes Vermeer will raise many questions. Is she pregnant? Why is she standing while reading a letter? What is written in it? How does she feel? The painter might have had the answers, but getting the right answers is not that important. What is important is to carefully observe the painting and flexibly imagine the situation. If you assume that she is pregnant, what could be written in the letter? Is there any clue to her feelings? Who wrote the letter? You can feel free to make a story based on what you have found. Again, it doesn't matter whether your story is right or wrong. The process of observing and imagining is both enjoyable and helpful.

raise	提起する	assume	想定する、仮定する
pregnant	妊娠している	clue	ヒント、手がかり
flexibly	柔軟に		