Critical Response Assignment

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Write a critical response to an **artwork of your choice**. Your response should be **2-3 pages long**. Include an image of the artwork with your paper. Provide citations and a list of works cited in addition to the body of your paper. Your teacher will give you guidelines on how to cite sources.

**Preparation and research:**

Be sure to spend significant time observing the work of art and noting your intuitive response as well as any details in the form and style that catch your eye. Then, research the artist and the historical and cultural context of the work of art.

**Research questions to consider:**

1. How does this work of art fit into a larger art world context? Does it continue a tradition or break from it?
2. What are the underlying cultural and historical contexts for the work?
3. What kinds of techniques and materials did the artist use to create this work? Is this work innovative in this respect?
4. What does the artist say about this work or their art process?
5. What have critics said about this work (or other works by the same artist) in the past?

**As you plan your paper, be sure to use the 4 steps of the critical process:**

* **Describe:** Use detailed descriptive language to help your reader examine the work of art.
* **Analyze:** Focus on particular aspects of the work of art, the artist’s process and the cultural/historical context.
* **Interpret:** Ask yourself what conclusions can be drawn from your analysis.
* **Judge/Evaluate:** Formulate and articulate your critique of the work of art. Remember, a critical response can be positive OR negative. Be sure to show how your analysis supports your critique.