

# The frames

The visual arts frames explore perspectives when making and viewing artworks.

## Subjective frame

Personal and psychological experience

Questions to introduce and explore the subjective frame

**What is my first impression?**

**What do I see, hear ...?**

**What is the emotional impact?**

**What do I feel, recall, remember?**

**What am I reminded of?**

**What intuition or imaginings do I have about the artwork?**

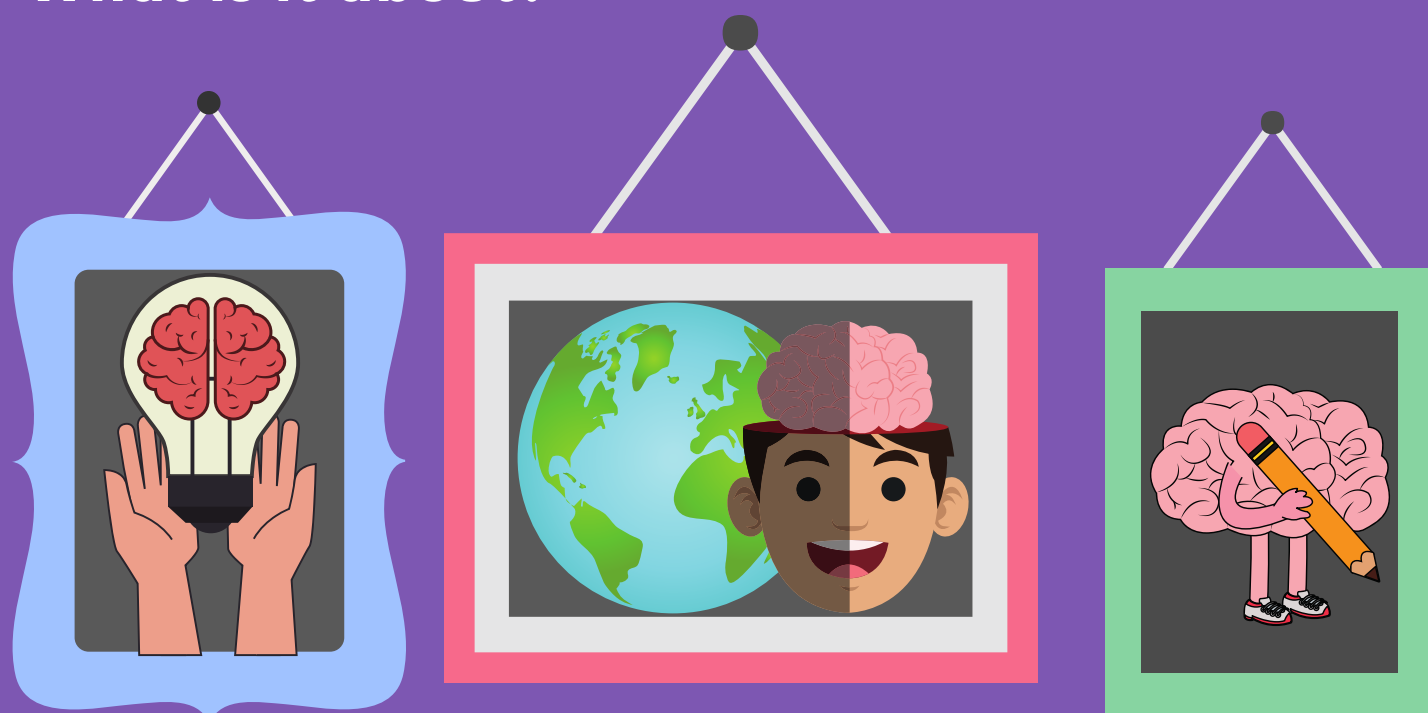
**Do I like it?**

**Why did they (or I) make it?**

**What emotions does the artist want to express?**

**What has it got to do with me or my experiences?**

**What is it about?**



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## Cultural frame

### Cultural and social meanings

Questions to introduce and explore the cultural frame

**What cultural group, race, place, identity is represented?**

**What social class, gender?**

**What beliefs - secular or spiritual?**

**What significant events?**

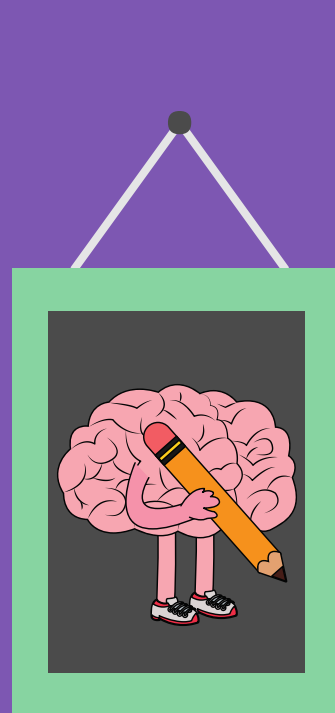
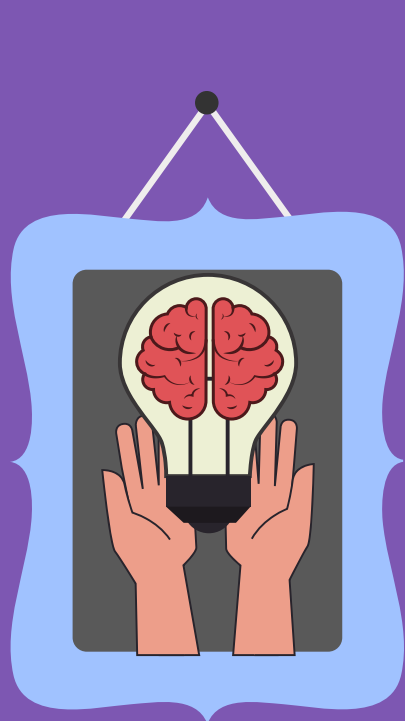
**What signs and symbols reveal the information?**

**What political stance (dissent or support, propaganda or protest)?**

**What meanings?**

**What ideology is revealed in ideas, concepts, manifestos, shared beliefs?**

**How do these cultural and social meanings affect the art practices of this artist?**



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## Structural frame

### Communication, system of signs

Questions to introduce and explore the structural frame

**What are the relationships between the symbols, signs?**

**What style, period, or art movement?**

**What materials and processes are used?**

**What other use do found objects have?**

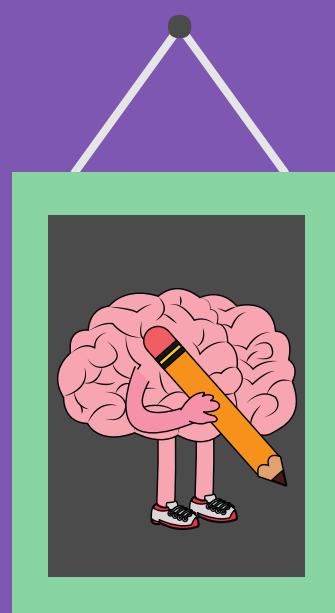
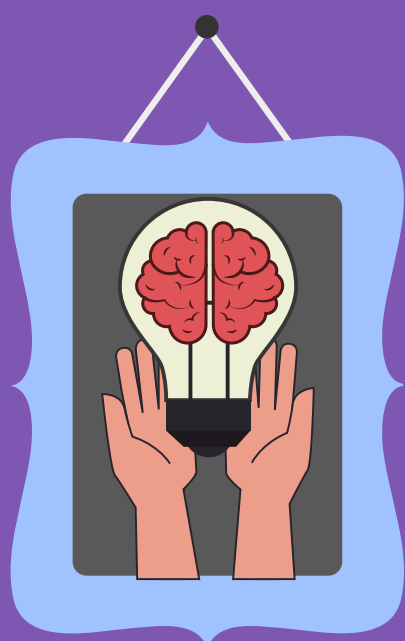
**How do all of these explain the world at the time and now?**

**Why were these symbols, signs selected?**



**What cultural conventions are shown e.g. landscape?**

**Describe the visual language of line, shape, colour, texture, tone, focal point, visual devices lighting, composition, 3D space.**



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## Postmodern frame

Ideas that challenge the mainstream

Questions to introduce and explore the postmodern frame

Is it mainstream or is it outside the mainstream?

Explain the source and what meaning is added.

What is challenged in social cultural values, beliefs spiritual/secular, power authorities?

What is challenged about art history, the masterpiece, art for art's sake, the role of art?

What is appropriated, quoted from another source?

Does this produce humour, irony, parody, wit, playfulness?

What is omitted or disregarded?

What is re-configured and reinterpreted?

What is challenged in art practices - classifications, conventions, art movements/styles?

