

Intro to Critique  
Self Portraits in a Naturalistic Style  
Grades 9-10

**Standard\_8.VA.Cr2.C** — “Select, organize, and design images and words to make visually clear and compelling presentations.”

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\*In this scenario, we are finishing up a lesson on creating a self-portrait in a naturalistic style. This is a 2-week Lesson where students are permitted to work on it at home and finish it during the first 20 minutes of class. The critique will begin afterwards.

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**Presentation- 3 mins**

16 students will be given thumbtacks to place their portraits on the bulletin board. (I will assist)

We will gather in front of the portraits, standing instead of sitting, with the students holding their sketchbooks for writing rather than drawing. I do find that standing during critique can trigger more engagement, as the kids can sway and pace a bit, and even become animated while speaking.

*“Students are encouraged to make notes throughout, especially if someone speaks about their work, and also note who. This teaches us to be receptive to feedback.”*

**Description- 5mins**

The student will, one at a time, walk up to a piece and describe how color, line variation, and other elements of art are used. (Line, shape, color, value, texture, space, form, balance, contrast, etc. A list will be provided.)

**Analysis 15 mins**

TSW- Write a response to 2 questions and be prepared to discuss them out loud.

- 1.Do any of these portraits look like anyone in the classroom? If so, then why?
- 2.What is something about your self-portrait that is different than anyone else's in here?
- 3.Observe face and body proportions and tell me 2 of the most successful ones and why?

**Interpretation 7 mins**

Pick a single piece, and write about how you can tell that they were truly observing a picture of themselves. Did they do a portrait in a Naturalistic style? Why or why not?

Are there any pieces that do not look correctly done, but you can still tell that they were observing a photo of themselves?

**Judgement 10 mins**

TTW- Offer feedback about successful elements, creative approaches, and make note of effort as well as craftsmanship. Questions to facilitate the discussion are for each individual to speak about their own work, noting 1 thing they believe is successful and 1 thing that they look forward to getting better at. A more thorough analysis will be given to them after the papers are graded.