

The Boating Party, 1893-1894 by Mary Cassatt [1844-1926]

1. Where would a viewer have to be to see the people and boat from this angle?
2. Where are the horizontal lines in this painting?
3. What is the center of interest in this composition?
4. How has Cassatt emphasized this part of the painting?
5. Where did Cassatt repeat yellow in this painting?
6. How does blue unify this painting?
7. Why does the man have his foot on the yellow boat support?
8. Describe the movement that the boat might make in the water.
9. Imagine that the man and woman are talking to each other.
 - a. What might they say?
 - b. What do their faces and bodies suggest about their relationship?
10. How is the composition of this painting like a snapshot?
11. Where are there broad areas of color?
12. Are there any other ways in which the painting appears flat?
13. In what ways do forms seem to move toward the edges of the painting?
14. What pulls the three figures together?

Historical Connections: nineteenth century women; women's rights movement

Historical Figures: Elizabeth Cady Stanton; Susan B. Anthony; Grimké sisters; Sojourner Truth

Civics: Nineteenth Amendment

Literary Connections and Primary Documents: *The Awakening*, Kate Chopin (secondary); Susan B. Anthony's speech at her trial of 1873 (middle, secondary)

Arts: Impressionism; American Impressionism