

Fallingwater, 1935-1939 by Frank Lloyd Wright [1867-1959]

1. Why is this house called *Fallingwater*?
2. Locate the balconies, the man on the lower balcony, a vertical column of stone, and a vertical area of glass windows.
3. Which exterior materials on this house are natural and which are man-made?
4. Notice how the textures of these materials contrast with each other. Describe the textures of the different parts of the house.
5. How did Wright preserve the natural beauty of this site?
6. What is a cantilever and how/why are they balanced?
7. What parts of *Fallingwater* are cantilevered?
8. What part of the building appears to create the weight to hold them in place?
9. How did Wright create an impression of a natural cave?
10. Why might a city dweller enjoy this house? Imagine being on one of the balconies. What would you hear?
11. The Kaufmanns wanted a vacation home on their land. Why was the location that Wright chose for the house a surprise to them?
12. Where would most architects probably have located the house to take advantage of the natural waterfall?
13. How is *Fallingwater* like a piece of contemporary abstract art from the twentieth century?

Science: ecology; physics

Mathematics: geometry

Literary Connections and Primary Documents: *Frank Lloyd Wright for Kids: His Life and Ideas*, Kathleen Thorne-Thomsen (elementary); *Silent Spring*, Rachel Carson (secondary)

Arts: architecture; Prairie Style; Modernism