

## ***Introducing: PICASSO – Advanced Level***

### **INTRODUCING PABLO PICASSO** **Spanish 1881-1973 (pee-KAH-soe)** **ADVANCED LEVEL**



#### **PROPS**

AUDIO: Flamenco Guitar Music

CARD: Artist Name – Date

SUPPLIES: Large Paper/Board and Marker

PRINT – Large Picasso Poster

#### **VOCABULARY**

Realistic, Abstract, Blue Period, Cool Colors, Rose Period, Warm Colors, Cubism, Profile, Classical Period, Pattern

#### **SLIDES**

- |                                     |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Artist Name/Date</i>          | 13. <i>French Circus</i>             |
| 2. <i>Paul and Paloma</i>           | 14. <i>Two Rose Period Paintings</i> |
| 3. <i>Spain</i>                     | 15. <i>Cubism</i>                    |
| 4. <i>Art School</i>                | 16. <i>Profile</i>                   |
| 5. <i>Gold Medal</i>                | 17. <i>Cubism Portraits</i>          |
| 6. <i>Paris</i>                     | 18. <i>Classical Art</i>             |
| 7. <i>Blue Period</i>               | 19. <i>Classical Period</i>          |
| 8. <i>Cool Colors</i>               | 20. <i>Pattern</i>                   |
| 9. <i>Two Blue Period Paintings</i> | 21. <i>Weeping Woman</i>             |
| 10. <i>Self-Portrait</i>            | 22. <i>Guernica</i>                  |
| 11. <i>Rose Period</i>              | 23. <i>Madame Picasso</i>            |
| 12. <i>Warm Colors</i>              | 24. <i>Pablo Picasso/Vocabulary</i>  |

#### **1. SLIDE – ARTIST NAME/DATE**

##### **MOTIVATION**

Today I'm going to show you two portraits of children. The first one is of a boy wearing a clown costume sitting in a chair. The second portrait is of a girl sitting in a chair and holding an orange. I want you to decide if the same artist or two different artists painted these pictures.

##### **DEVELOPMENT**

#### **2. SLIDE – PAUL AND PALOMA**

Does this look like the same artist painted both portraits? (NO) But the same artist did paint both portraits even though the styles are quite different from each other. The left portrait is a REALISTIC looking painting of his son, Paul. Does the right portrait look realistic? (NO) He painted his daughter, Paloma, in an ABSTRACT style, which means it does not look real; it does not look like a photograph.

The styles are different, because our artist kept changing the way he painted. He was never content to stay with what was successful. His painting styles would become popular, and other artists would begin to copy him. Then he would be off trying something completely new. That is one reason why he is one of the most famous artists of the 1900s. Let's meet today's master artist and find out how and why his work changed.

## *Introducing: PICASSO – Advanced Level*

### **3. SLIDE – SPAIN**

I would like to introduce you to master artist Pablo Picasso. Picasso was born in Spain in the late 1800s. As a child he could draw pictures before he could write, or even talk! He would draw for hours with help from his father, who was an art teacher.

### **4. SLIDE – ART SCHOOL**

His artwork became so good that he attended an art school when he was only thirteen years old. All his fellow students were in their twenties. The directors allowed young Picasso to attend after seeing samples of his excellent work, like the painting of the girl in the red dress. He showed great talent and completed the art course in record time.

### **5. SLIDE – GOLD MEDAL**

When Picasso was only 15, he entered this painting in the most prestigious art competition in all of Spain. He won the gold medal! Can you guess who might have posed as the doctor in this painting? (PICASSO'S FATHER) Yes, his father was the model.

### **6. SLIDE – PARIS**

Not long after winning the art competition, Picasso left Spain to live in Paris, France. This was an exciting city for an artist, because it was the world art center at that time. Artists came from many different countries to study art and learn from their fellow artists. The next painting you will see was done by Picasso when he first lived in Paris.

### **7. SLIDE – BLUE PERIOD**

Have you ever experienced this? When you are in a really good mood and things are going well, everyone you meet seems happy, too? But if you're in a bad mood and something has gone wrong, everything around you seems unhappy?

For Picasso, feelings were very important. Picasso had a time in his life when everything seemed to be going wrong, and when he painted that unhappy feeling showed. This was called his BLUE PERIOD. He was a struggling artist trying to make himself known in the art world. He was poor, lonely, and without hope.

### **8. SLIDE – COOL COLORS**

What is the main color of this painting? (BLUE) Is blue a WARM or COOL COLOR? (COOL) When we are feeling sad, we sometimes say we feel "blue." How many of you have heard that expression? The painting you see on the screen was done during Picasso's Blue Period. During the Blue Period, Picasso used a lot of darker shades of blue. What color would he have mixed with his blue paint to get this palette? (BLACK)

Raise your hand if it looks depressing and sad. (YES) Look closely at the painting. What is physically wrong with the man you see? (BLIND) How did you guess he was blind? (FINGERS REACHING FOR PITCHER, LOOK ON FACE, POSITION OF BODY) The title of this painting is *The Blind Man's Meal*.

There is a poem written about this painting. Try to experience the mood of the poem as you look at the painting and listen to the words.

*His green left hand clutches the yellow bread  
With the curved, breathing motion of a sigh.  
He waits, while under the unblinking head  
His shoulders turn and peer like a great eye.*



### ***Introducing: PICASSO – Advanced Level***

*He does not know his jacket is dark blue.  
And yet the jug his right hand has set down  
(Still touching it, reluctant to let go)  
Gleams with such warmth, with such a vivid hue,  
He feels the color up his thin arm flow;  
He hears his looking fingers whisper, Brown.*

#### **9. SLIDE – TWO BLUE PERIOD PAINTINGS**

Have you ever thought of what it would be like to be blind, like this old guitarist? He painted many blind people during his Blue Period. Picasso, even though he had good eyesight, had a fear of blindness. He thought about it often, and that made him feel sympathy for blind people. Picasso cared about others, especially those unfortunate people who lived near him in the poor sections of Paris.

#### **10. SLIDE – SELF-PORTRAIT**

But life got better for Picasso, and his future seemed brighter. His art gained notice, and his paintings were selling. He got married, too. His happier feelings showed up in his paintings. Have you heard the expression, “life is rosy?” Are things good or bad when things are rosy? (GOOD)

#### **11. SLIDE – ROSE PERIOD**

Picasso’s next style of painting is called his ROSE PERIOD. What differences do you see from his Blue Period painting? (NOT AS MUCH BLUE) Picasso still used blue, but he made the painting happier looking by adding warm colors.

#### **12. SLIDE – WARM COLORS**

What warm colors do we find in this painting? (ORANGE, ROSE, PINK, RED, BROWN)

This period is named after the color rose, which is a lighter shade of red. Where do you see that color in this painting? (YOUNG GIRL’S DRESS)

#### **13. SLIDE – FRENCH CIRCUS**

Can you tell me what this painting shows? (FAMILY OF CIRCUS PEOPLE) Picasso loved the circus and spent a lot of time there. He became friends with some of the circus performers and traveled around with them as they went from town to town doing their circus shows. Most of the rose period paintings were of circus people. Did he show a happy scene, like we picture when we think of a circus? (NO) Can you think why he painted the circus people this way? (SHOW OTHER SIDE TO CIRCUS LIFE; NOT ALL HAPPY, HUMAN SIDE TO PERFORMING; SHOW WAS OVER)

Can you guess which man is a self-portrait of our tall, intense young artist-Pablo? (MAN AT LEFT)

#### **14. SLIDE – TWO ROSE PERIOD PAINTINGS**

Are these Rose Period paintings? (YES) How can you tell? (USED WARM COLORS, CIRCUS COSTUME) The mother and son and the two brothers are looking a little bit tired after their acrobatic performance in the circus.

#### **15. SLIDES – CUBISM**

Did Picasso change his style of art completely in this painting? (YES) This is titled *Pitcher and Bowl of Fruit*. Can you identify those two items in this still life? Why does it look so strange? Imagine we are looking at this still life from the front. Then we walk around and see it from the back, the sides,

## *Introducing: PICASSO – Advanced Level*

the top, and the bottom. Picasso took all those possible views of the still life and combined them in one composition. This style of showing things from all different views is called CUBISM, named after the cube.

How did Picasso emphasize the shape and form of the objects in this still life painting? (OUTLINED OBJECTS WITH DARK COLOR) He also took out detail to show shape. Do you think Cubism was popular when Picasso first started painting that way? (NO) No one understood it or liked it. Picasso and his artist friend, Braque, invented Cubism. It wasn't popular at first, but it made Picasso very famous.

How would you like your portrait painted in Cubism? Can you imagine that?

### **16. SLIDE – PROFILE**

His Cubist portraits sometimes look a little strange! He used solid colors, angles and shapes rather than realistic detail. Let's see how he was able to show more than one view of a face in the same painting.

Hold up your hand in front of your eyes so that it blocks the right side of the woman's face. You should only be able to see the left side of the woman's face, the side that shows her hand. (POINT OUT ON SLIDE) Is that a front or side view of her face? (FRONT) That eye is looking forward. Now move your hand so that it blocks the side we were just looking at. You are now looking at the right side of her face. (POINT OUT ON SLIDE) Is that a front or side view of her face? (SIDE VIEW) Another word for side view is PROFILE. Notice that the eye, nose, and mouth are turned sideways.

Picasso did not paint hair on the PROFILE side, because her face is turned. Notice that we can see hair on the front view side. In this portrait he combined a front view and a profile view all in one face!

### **17. SLIDE – CUBISM PORTRAITS**

Here are more examples of his strange cubism portraits. The young girl on the left is another daughter, Maya. Do you think Maya liked this portrait?

Many people were shocked when these unusual portraits were put on display but this kind of art is what eventually helped make Picasso the most important artist of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Now let's see what inspired him to paint a very different kind of portrait.

### **18. SLIDE – CLASSICAL ART**

Picasso took a trip to Italy and saw many beautiful museum sculptures that were made long ago. These sculptures were made of marble, which is a very hard stone. It comes in many colors, but the sculptures Picasso saw were mostly in white marble. Some of these sculptures are so old that only parts of them remain. This head is all that is left of a sculpture that was made more than 2,000 years ago. This kind of art made by the ancient Greeks and Romans is called CLASSICAL.

Picasso loved the smooth, very rounded shapes of these sculptures. When he went back to France, he was inspired to recreate what he saw.

### **19. SLIDE – CLASSICAL PERIOD**

Instead of sculpting marble as the artists of long ago had done, he did paintings of very smooth, rounded people that look like they had been carved out of marble. He used warm, rich colors and sometimes dressed the people in the same clothing and hairstyles that he saw on the marble statues in the museums. Picasso's new way of painting was called the CLASSICAL PERIOD just like the ancient art he had seen.



## **Introducing: PICASSO – Advanced Level**

Listen to Picasso's words about artists of long ago, "To me there is no past or future in art... The art of the Greeks, of the Egyptians, of the great painters who lived in other times, is not an art of the past; perhaps it is more alive today than it ever was."

### **20. SLIDE – PATTERN**

Is this a Classical or Cubist painting? (CUBIST) Very good! The title of this painting is *Mandolin and Guitar*. Can you find the two musical instruments? Picasso loved music, and musical instruments can be found in many of his paintings. Look closely and see if you can find the three views of the yellow mandolin; the top, side, and bottom are shown. Can you point them out?

Picasso said, "Why do people always want to explain a picture? Why not explain a bird's song, the night, a flower?" So instead of explaining, let's just enjoy and explore the color and design. Do you like the bright colors? Picasso repeats the colors to bring the painting together. Notice the bright blues in the sky. Can you find where Picasso repeated them? (ON THE WALLS, UNDER THE TABLE)

Now let's look at his skill with PATTERNS. How would you define PATTERN? (LINE, SHAPE OR COLOR THAT REPEATS) Do you see any patterns that he repeated in another place in the painting? (DESIGN ON TABLECLOTH, SQUARES ON CEILING AND FLOOR) Picasso repeated those colors and patterns you just found for a very good reason. He knew it would make your eyes keep searching and exploring the painting!

Before artists begin a painting, they will do practice sketches or studies. The next slide is a study he did before painting one of his most famous works.

### **21. SLIDE – WEEPING WOMAN**

What style did he use? (CUBISM) This painting is one of many studies he did in preparation for his masterpiece painting called *Guernica* (gwer-ni-ca). It's so huge, 25 ft. wide by 12 ft. tall, that it won't fit on one slide. He made the features and shapes flat. Can you find the woman's handkerchief? The presence of the handkerchief and the overall feeling you get from this portrait will give you a clue to the title. Can you guess the title? (WEEPING WOMAN)

Picasso again is expressing his emotions through his artwork. This painting was completed in 1937 when a civil war was raging in Spain. A civil war is a war between different groups in the same nation like the American Civil War that occurred when Abraham Lincoln was president.

### **22. SLIDE – GUERNICA**

Picasso was living in France at the time, but he was very concerned about what was happening in his native country of Spain. One of the armies dropped bombs over the little town of Guernica, destroying the area, injuring and killing many innocent people. Picasso was so angry when he heard about the destruction that he poured all of his feelings into the painting. In this study of the crying woman, he used some color, but in the final painting you see only dark colors of black and gray to show the horrors of war. In the final painting, he included a weeping woman holding her baby who had been killed by the bombing. It's a very powerful and emotional painting, and he made it big so the world would never forget this terrible war.

### **23. SLIDE – MADAM PICASSO**

What style is this painting? (CLASSICAL) This portrait is special, because it is Picasso's wife. Picasso married several times, and each wife inspired him in his work. This wife, Olga, was a Russian ballerina he met when he was hired to design the costumes and scenery for a ballet. Because she practiced her dancing every day, she was a slender woman. Did Picasso paint her to look like a

### *Introducing: PICASSO – Advanced Level*

slender ballerina? (NO) He would change the look of things to suit his idea for the painting. How did he make her look like a marble statue? (WHITE, SMOOTH, VERY ROUNDED) He made her look like one of those classical sculptures even though she was wearing modern dress.

#### **24. SLIDE – PABLO PICASSO/VOCABULARY**

Picasso lived to be ninety-one years old. During the last thirty years of his life, he enjoyed great success and wealth. But it didn't mean much to him. He cared little if his work was liked. He only cared about pushing himself ever forward in discovering all there was to find in art. Through the years he was often criticized, he was often praised, but he was never ignored.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Let's review by playing a game. I'm going to divide you into two groups, and you will need to know the four periods of Picasso's art to help your team win. Say the four periods in order with me, **Blue Period, Rose Period, Cubist Period, and Classical Period.**

I will describe something about Picasso's art. If you can identify to which period it belongs, raise your hand. For every correct answer, your team earns a letter of Picasso's last name. With an equal number of turns, the first team to complete his name is our winner today. Any questions? Let's see which group knows their Picasso art! (USE LARGE PAPER/BOARD AND MARKER TO BEGIN, EACH TEAM WILL GET SEVEN UNDERLINING DASHES FOR LETTERS OF PICASSO'S LAST NAME. EACH TIME A CORRECT ANSWER IS GIVEN, THE INSTRUCTOR OR "TEAM CAPTAIN" CAN FILL IN THE CORRECT LETTER.)

- |                            |           |                               |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Blind Man               | Blue      | 8. Had hope, happier          | Rose      |
| 2. Mandolin & Guitar       | Cubist    | 9. Used many bright colors    | Cubist    |
| 3. Circus Paintings        | Rose      | 10. Added reds to blues       | Rose      |
| 4. Views from all sides    | Cubist    | 11. Afraid of losing eyesight | Blue      |
| 5. Madame Picasso          | Classical | 12. Admired art of long ago   | Classical |
| 6. Poor, lonely, depressed | Blue      | 13. Destruction of war        | Cubist    |
| 7. Trip to Italy           | Classical | 14. Smooth and rounded        | Classical |

You listened well and were good Picasso students! Which of his periods of painting did you like the best? Raise your hand and vote for your favorite one: Blue Period, Rose Period, Cubist Period, or Classical Period. Picasso's \_\_\_\_\_ Period was the majority's favorite! Now you are familiar with all of his styles of art, and that art knowledge allowed you to have a preference!