



Responding to works of art / **discussion**

Discover more about the treasures in our State Art Collection by encouraging students to interact with the works of art. Discuss what they see and how they feel; stimulate their imagination! Remember that all the works of art are original, so please do not touch.

What is a landscape?

Artists create representations of nature in many different ways to show how they feel about the land.

- How has the artist arranged the parts of the landscape? This arrangement is called **composition**; look for lines and shapes.
- What is in the front of the landscape, the **foreground**? What is in the **background**?
- How does the artist show **space** in the landscape?



Henry Moore
Reclining Figure, 1956
bronze
State Art Collection,
Art Gallery of Western Australia



What is a sculpture?

This is a work of art that you can walk around to explore from all angles.

- What **materials** has the artist used?
- Do you think there is any **movement** in the sculpture?
- Look at the **colours**. What is the effect of the light reflecting on the sculpture?
- How does the artist **balance** the work of art to prevent it falling over?

What is a portrait?

This is a representation of a person. It gives us information about the sitter.

- Has the artist **exaggerated** any part of the portrait? What effect does this have?
- Look at the surface of the work of art. What **texture** can you see?
- What is in the **background**? Does it give us more information about the sitter?
- Could the portrait be a good **likeness**? How can you tell?

Hans Heysen
Driving into the light, 1921
oil on canvas
State Art Collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia