

# O.P.T.I.C.

Paying attention to the details is a habit that is a necessary part of effective analysis. As you analyze visual texts, including paintings, photographs, advertisements, maps, charts or graphs, the **OPTIC** strategy can help you construct meaning. As you examine a visual text, respond to each element.

<p><b>Overview</b></p> <p>Write a brief <b>overview</b> of the image: in one complete sentence, what is this image about?</p>	
<p><b>Parts</b></p> <p>Key in on all of the <b>parts</b> by noting any details that seem important. This can be anything: color, figures, textures, scenery, groupings, shadings, patterns, numbers, etc.</p>	
<p><b>Title / Text</b></p> <p>Use the <b>title</b> to clarify the subject of the image. Consider both literal and metaphoric meanings. What does the title suggest? Is there any <b>text</b> in the image—a caption, or words in the image itself? What might this text suggest? What are the connotations?</p>	
<p><b>Interrelationships</b></p> <p>Discover the <b>interrelationships</b> in the image. How do the parts or pieces relate, both to one another and the image as a whole. Is there an evident perspective or point of view? What patterns do you see? How do the parts come together to reveal the artist's message?</p>	
<p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>Draw a <b>conclusion</b> about the meaning of the visual as a whole: think about what the artist, photographer, creator, or designer might be trying to capture and convey, and what ideas, arguments, or implications this image presents.</p>	