

What to look for:

1. Technique and medium: Technique (stone carving, modeling, etching, drawing, painting, etc.) and how the particular properties of the medium (e.g. bronze, marble, oil paint, etc.) affect the work.
2. Surface texture:
 - a) depth of cut in sculpture
 - b) brushwork in paintinghow do these affect the work?
3. In painting: the use of color and tone (gradations of light and dark)
4. In painting: light source and use of light
5. Subject Matter: the way the subject is handled by the artist
6. Composition: the focus of attention, how the forms are arranged and linked, the geometric structure underlying the grouping, etc.
7. Space: the handling of space. Interest or lack of interest in perspective.
8. Modeling: the presence or absence of three-dimensional effect
9. The degree of naturalism or stylization
10. The presentation of the human figure:
 - a) the compositional arrangement
 - b) focal point
 - c) size in relation to total area
 - d) the treatment of the figure
 - e) drapery: type and functionagain, how do these affect the work?
11. Decorative effects: the presence or absence of decorative features, the treatment of details.
12. Expressive qualities, and how they are achieved.

Again, these are *suggestions*; you are not obligated (nor encouraged!) to address each of these points. Most important is to formulate an argument about the work, relying on what you see to prove your thesis.