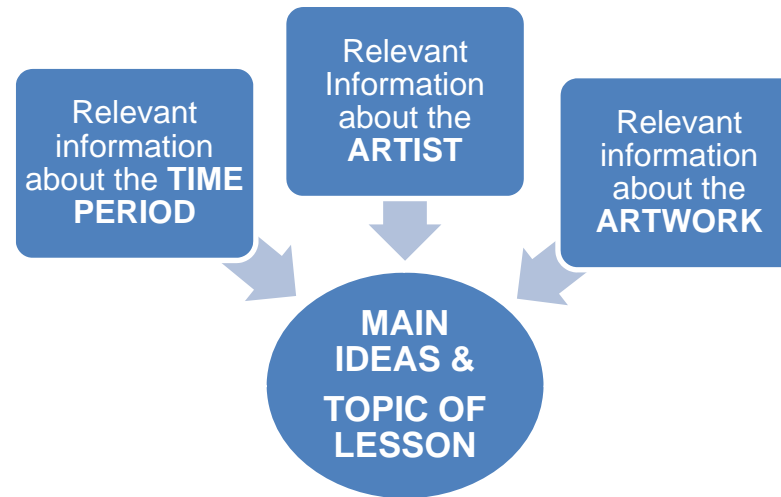


Identifying Key Information about Works of American Art



About the Time Period

- *Around the time the artwork was made, what was happening in history, society, or politics that the artist was probably responding to?*
- *Are there primary source documents that shed light on the question above? If so note them.*
- *What or who is missing from the artwork? Are there realities the artist didn't address?*

About the Artwork

- *What does the work depict or represent? What is the subject?*
- *What visual strategies did the artist use to get his/her ideas across?*
- *Did the artist write about the work? Is he/she quoted as saying anything about it? What did critics or art historians say about it? Add relevant quotes.*
- *In what ways is the work a reflection of society or a product of its time?*
- *Why was the artwork made? Was it commissioned by somebody?*
- *Why does the artwork look the way it does? What expectations was the artist responding to?*

About the Artist

- *When did the artist live? Where did he/she work most of the time?*
- *What of the artist's life experiences might have influenced or inspired him/her to make the work of art? What was happening in the artist's life when he/she made the work? Where was he/she?*

Identifying Key Information about Works of American Art

