

HUNTINGTON GALLERY

VOCABULARY LIST

<u>background</u>	the part of the picture that seems to be farthest from the viewer
<u>canvas</u>	a piece of cloth prepared as a surface to receive oil paint
<u>cartoon</u>	a design used as a pattern for tapestry
<u>color</u>	a visual element that refers to what the eyes see when light is reflected off an object
<u>commission</u>	the hiring of one or more artists to create a work of art
<u>composition</u>	the placement of forms, shapes, colors and light and dark areas in a work of art
<u>conversation piece</u>	small sized portrait, showing one or more people at full length
<u>foreground</u>	the part of the picture that seems closest to the viewer
<u>horizon</u>	the line where water or land seems to end and the sky begins
<u>landscape</u>	the view made up of natural outdoor scenery, such as mountains, rivers, fields or forests
<u>marquetry</u> (mar ke tree)	a patterned veneer of wood, applied to French furniture
<u>masterpiece</u>	a major work of any great artist
<u>middleground</u>	the part of the picture that is between the foreground and the background
<u>miniature</u>	a very small portrait, frequently on ivory
<u>mood</u>	the state of mind or feeling communicated in a work of art, frequently through color
<u>neoclassical</u>	a revival of the artistic style of ancient Greece or of the Roman Empire
<u>ormolu</u> (ormo loo)	gilded bronze, frequently applied to French furniture
<u>Overlapping</u>	technique in which one shape or part covers some part or all of

another. Since overlapping objects appear closer, this is a perspective technique used to show distance in artworks

patina

the finished surface on a piece of sculpture or furniture

perspective

a visual formula that creates the illusion of depth and volume on a two-dimensional surface. Perspective also infers a particular vantage point or view

atmospheric: achieved by using bluer, lighter and duller hues for distant objects)

lineal: way of showing depth and distance in a picture with converging lines. Lines that are parallel get closer together and objects get smaller in the distance

portrait

a picture of a person or images that portray a person

proportion

the relationship of one object to another in size, shape or number

rococo

18th century style of ornamentation, characterized by compound curved lines

sculpture

a three-dimensional work of art in the round (to be viewed from all sides) or in bas relief (low relief in which figures protrude slightly from the background)

shape

the outline of a figure or form. Shapes can be rectangles, triangles, circles, squares, etc.

space

the visual area within and around shapes and forms. Positive space is bound by edges or surfaces, negative space refers to the “empty” area surrounding a shape or form

sterling

a standard used in silver, establishing the amount of copper or other base metal that may be present in the mixture with silver

tapestry

fabric woven on a loom from silk and wool

texture

the visual element that refers to the way something feels or looks like it feels and can be actual or implied

topographical

a precise visual record of a particular stretch of country

urn

a vase, especially one with an ornamental foot or pedestal

vanishing point

in linear perspective drawing, a point at which receding lines seem to meet or converge

veneer

a thin surface layer of wood applied to French furniture