Film Worksheet

PBS, *Civilizations*, Episode 2: “How Do We Look?”

1. What is the subject (theme) of this episode?

2. Who were the Olmec? How did the Olmec show their fascination with the human figure?

3. In the segment on the Colossi of Memnon, it is said that “how we look changes what we see.” What does that mean as it relates to the Colossi of Memnon?

4. Who was Phrasikleia? How is she depicted in her portrait?

5. How are the Roman funerary portraits from Egypt different from the portrait of Phrasikleia?

6. What astonishing discovery was made in China in 1974? What was the purpose of this project carried out by the Emperor Qin (pronounced Chin) in the late 3rd century BCE?

7. How did Egyptian pharaoh Ramses II assert his power through art?

8. How did the Greeks use painted vases to reinforce social norms?

9. In 5th century BCE Greece, what was the daring new experiment in sculpture as exemplified by the Kritios Boy?

10. What makes the Roman Boxer at Rest statue different from the other sculpture discussed thus far in the film?

11. What was the importance—in terms of the developments in art around the world—of Johann Joachim Winckelmann’s book celebrating classical Greek art that was published in 1764?

12. What work of art is believed by many scholars to be a fake?

13. Who is Kehinde Wiley? How does his work grapple with the fact that Black people were largely left out of painting through the centuries?