

**WEEK 7**

**TOPIC**

**Artistic Styles and Movements: Impressionism and Post-Impressionism**

**TOPIC OVERVIEW**

In this learning module, we will delve into two significant artistic styles and movements: Impressionism and Post-Impressionism. These movements emerged in the late 19th century and had a profound impact on the art world, challenging traditional artistic norms and styles. We will explore the characteristics, key artists, techniques, and the broader cultural and historical context of these movements.

**DESIRED LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the end of the learning task, the students should be able to:

- 1. Identify and describe the key characteristics of Impressionism and Post-Impressionism.
- 2. Recognize and discuss the notable artists associated with each movement.
- 3. Understand the techniques and innovations employed by Impressionist and Post-Impressionist artists.
- 4. Analyze the impact of Impressionism and Post-Impressionism on the art world and broader society.

**CONTENT DEVELOPMENT 7**

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**I. Introduction to Impressionism and Post-Impressionism**

**1: Defining Impressionism**

Impressionism is an artistic movement that emerged in the late 19th century, primarily in France. At its core, Impressionism sought to capture fleeting moments, often emphasizing the play of light and the transient nature of scenes. Impressionist artists aimed to depict their immediate visual impressions of a subject, rather than creating highly detailed, realistic images.

**2: Roots of Impressionism**

Impressionism didn't materialize out of thin air. It had roots in the changing landscape of the time. Factors like the advent of photography, a growing interest in science and optics, and the desire to break free from the rigid conventions of academic art contributed to the birth of this movement.

**3: Key Characteristics of Impressionism**

Now, let's dive into the defining characteristics of Impressionism:

**Emphasis on Light:** Impressionists were obsessed with capturing the effects of natural light on objects and scenes.

**Loose Brushwork:** They often used rapid, visible brushstrokes to create a sense of movement and immediacy.

**Everyday Subjects:** Impressionists painted everyday scenes, like landscapes, cityscapes, and people going about their daily lives.

**Momentary Impressions:** They aimed to capture a moment in time, often outdoors, which led to a focus on changing weather and lighting conditions.

**4: Transition to Post-Impressionism**

Post-Impressionism followed Impressionism and built upon its foundation. While Impressionists focused on fleeting moments and visual impressions, Post-Impressionists went a step further. They introduced more personal and emotional elements into their works, using color and form to express their inner feelings and ideas. Artists like Vincent van Gogh and Paul Cézanne are key figures in this movement.

**5: Significance and Legacy**

Impressionism and Post-Impressionism were revolutionary in the art world. They challenged traditional norms, paving the way for modern art movements. These movements emphasized the artist's unique perception and interpretation of the world, influencing the development of artistic styles and techniques in the 20th century.

## **II. Core Characteristics of Impressionism**

### **1: Introduction to Impressionism**

#### **Understanding Impressionism (Essential Foundation)**

Impressionism was a revolutionary art movement that emerged in the late 19th century, primarily in France. It sought to capture fleeting moments and immediate visual impressions of a scene.

### **2: Emphasis on Light and Color**

#### **Light as a Principal Focus (Defining Characteristic)**

Impressionist artists were deeply interested in the effects of natural light on their subjects. They often painted outdoors to capture changing light conditions and their impact on colors.

#### **Vibrant Use of Color (Pioneering Technique)**

Impressionists departed from the traditional color palette, using bold, vibrant colors directly from the tube. They sought to express the changing qualities of light through color.

### **3: Brushwork and Techniques**

#### **Loose and Rapid Brushwork (Distinctive Style)**

Impressionist artists employed loose and rapid brushstrokes to create a sense of movement, immediacy, and spontaneity in their paintings. The strokes were often visible and became a hallmark of the movement.

### **4: Everyday Scenes and Subject Matter**

#### **Capture of Everyday Life (Subject Matter)**

Impressionists painted ordinary, everyday scenes such as landscapes, urban scenes, leisure activities, and the lives of ordinary people. They sought to depict contemporary life in a rapidly changing society.

## **III. Noteworthy Impressionist Artists**

### **1: Introduction to Impressionist Artists**

#### **Understanding the Impressionist Movement (Essential Foundation)**

Before delving into specific artists, let's understand the broader context of Impressionism as a revolutionary art movement that emerged in the late 19th century, focusing on fleeting moments and immediate visual impressions.

### **2: Claude Monet - The Pioneer**

#### **Claude Monet: A Trailblazer (Influential Figure)**

Claude Monet is considered the epitome of Impressionism. Explore his life, art, and technique, emphasizing his contributions and the hallmark characteristics of his paintings.

### **3: Edgar Degas - The Versatile Impressionist**

#### **Edgar Degas: A Unique Perspective (Versatile Talent)**

Delve into Edgar Degas' life and works, highlighting his ability to capture the essence of movement, particularly in ballet scenes. Discuss how his style added diversity to the Impressionist movement.

### **4: Pierre-Auguste Renoir - The Master of People**

#### **Pierre-Auguste Renoir: Capturing Humanity (People-Centric Art)**

Explore Renoir's artworks, emphasizing his focus on people and society. Discuss how his portrayal of everyday life and social interactions contributed to the Impressionist narrative.

### **5: Berthe Morisot - Breaking Barriers**

#### **Berthe Morisot: A Woman in Impressionism (Breaking Gender Norms)**

Shed light on Berthe Morisot's remarkable contributions as a female Impressionist artist. Discuss her unique style and how she challenged gender barriers in the art world of her time.

## **IV. Post-Impressionism - An Evolution Beyond Impressionism**

### **1: Introduction to Post-Impressionism**

#### **Understanding Post-Impressionism (Essential Foundation)**

Begin by understanding the transition from Impressionism to Post-Impressionism. How did this new movement emerge, and what differentiated it from its predecessor?

### **2: Departure from Impressionism**

#### **Breaking Free from Impressionism (Defining the Shift)**

Explore the distinct characteristics that set Post-Impressionism apart from Impressionism, such as a more structured approach and a departure from the fleeting moment in favor of deeper emotional expression.

### **3: Vincent van Gogh - Bold Colors and Emotional Intensity**

#### **Vincent van Gogh: The Master of Expression (Color and Emotion)**

Delve into Vincent van Gogh's life and art, emphasizing his bold use of color and emotional intensity. Discuss how his unique style paved the way for Post-Impressionism.

### **4: Paul Cézanne - The Structure of Forms**

#### **Paul Cézanne: Structure and Form (Analytical Approach)**

Explore Paul Cézanne's contribution to Post-Impressionism, focusing on his emphasis on structure, form, and a more analytical approach to depicting the world.

### **5: Georges Seurat - Science and Technique**

#### **Georges Seurat: The Science of Art (Pointillism and Technique)**

Highlight Georges Seurat's innovative technique of pointillism and how he integrated scientific principles into his art, contributing to the evolution of Post-Impressionism.

## **V. Impact and Legacy of Impressionism and Post-Impressionism**

### **1: Introduction to Impact and Legacy**

#### **Understanding the Artistic Revolution**

We're going to talk about how Impressionism and Post-Impressionism changed the way people thought about art. Imagine it like they shook up a snow globe - everything looked different after they were done.

### **2: Challenging Traditional Norms**

#### **Defying Artistic Conventions**

Traditional art used to be very strict and specific about how things should look. Impressionism and Post-Impressionism said, "Hey, let's break those rules and paint what we feel, not just what we see."

### **3: Influence on Modern Art Movements**

#### **Shaping Modern Art**

These movements were like the cool older siblings of modern art. They inspired artists to try new things and be unique. It's like they set the stage for all the cool art styles we have today.

### **4: Perception of Color and Light**

#### **A Paradigm Shift in Color and Light**

Before, art mainly tried to look real, like a photograph. But Impressionists and Post-Impressionists said, "What if we use colors and light to show emotion and feelings, even if it doesn't look exactly real?" It was a game-changer.

### **5: Lasting Legacy in Art History**

#### **Impressionism and Post-Impressionism Today**

Imagine these art movements as superheroes. Even today, artists are inspired by them. They brought a new perspective to art that still influences how we paint, draw, and even think about art in our modern world.