Jake Sylvestre

H English I

Patronage of the Arts: Help or Hindrance?

October 6th 2913

Cogent-

The word cogent in this context most likely means assertive. Firstly this whole piece is very forceful in its opinions. Secondly cogent meaning assertive would further emphasize the following word which would be convincing. This was taken out of the second paragraph “A cogent and convincing account” Thirdly, cogent, in the context of forceful/assertive would be positive, as is the rest of the piece toward the patronage of the arts despite its title, which suggest no bias. Lastly cogent would mean full, because something has to be full to be convincing, and would follow “acknowledge its long, productive history.

Bequeathed-

The word bequeathed in this context most likely means passed down. This conclusion became by the mention of future generations in paragraph three: “The patronage system **bequeathed** countless masterpieces to future generations”. This showed me that it meant passing on or moving forward. Also at the end when he talks about scholars futuristically looking back he is hinting at something being handed down. That is in paragraph three “Scholars have ascertained....”.

Esteem-

Esteem probably means admiration. I came to this conclusion through the positivity of the word won as a prequel to esteem. This is in paragraph 4 when the narrator says “had won the writer considerable esteem” Won indicated positivity, so the something he won was positive, and its not any object so that matched admiration. Also, throughout the piece for instance, in the third paragraph when the narrator is talking about masterpieces it has a tone as though the pieces were admired by scholars: “scholars have ascertained”.