

Art and the Industrial Age

One of the most studied periods in history was the so-called Industrial Revolution. It hit England in the early 1800's and much of Europe only a little later in the century. It's hard to understate the impact this "coming of the machine" had on daily life. Like most drastic changes, it had both positive and negative effects upon the citizens of every society it touched.



Romanticism Versus Realism

Art in Europe during the Industrial Age can generally be classified into two distinct styles : Romanticism and Realism. Romanticism is a complex artistic, literary, and intellectual movement that originated in the second half of the 18th century in Western Europe, and gained strength during the Industrial Revolution. It was a revolt against the Age of Enlightenment and the Scientific Revolution. Romanticism was an escape from modern realities.

"Realism" was offered as a polarized opposite to Romanticism. Realism is a visual art style that depicts the actuality of what the eyes can see. Realists show everyday characters, situations, dilemmas, and objects, as they actually saw it with their own eyes. They weren't interested in drama, or deep meaning but instead focused on everyday themes.

While both of these styles depict ideas and life during the Industrial Age, which style portrayed the time period the best?

Instructions for the Activity

1. Today you will be working in pairs. NO ONE will be working alone.
2. You will see a slideshow of six paintings from the Industrial Age (time of the industrial Revolution).

With your partner you will work together to identify two things (on the chart on the back of your sheet):

- *Is it Romanticism or Realism?*
- *Almost all art has a message hidden within it. What is the message of this painting? What is the artist trying to say?*

Each slide is automatically timed for 3 minutes. Stay on task. The slide will advance whether or not you are ready!

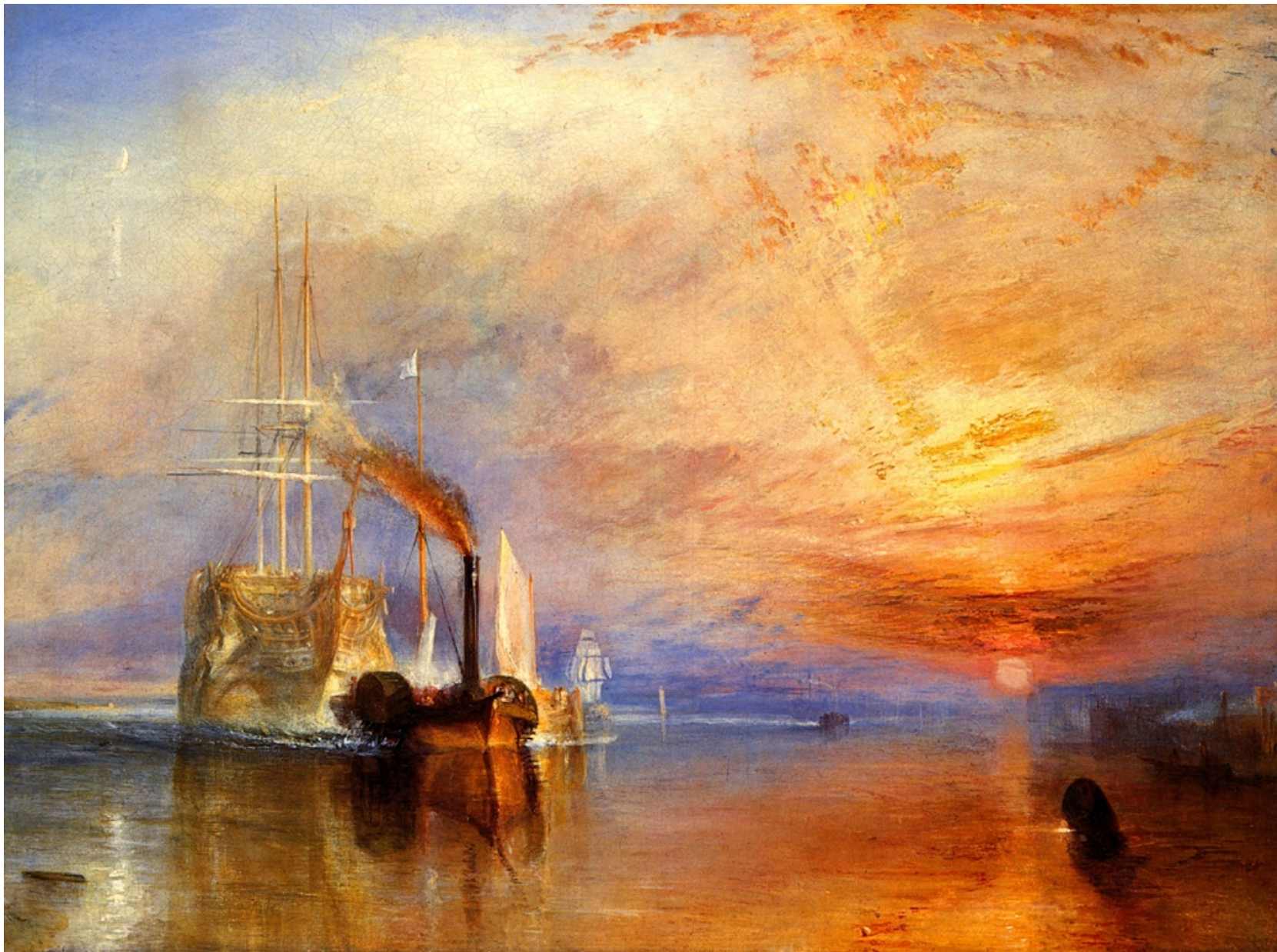
Be ready to share your answers. Grades go in today!

Name of Artwork	Is it Romanticism or Realism?	What is the message of this painting? What is the artist trying to say?
<p>1. Jean-François Millet. <i>The Gleaners</i></p>		
<p>2. <i>The Fighting Téméraire</i> J.M.W. Turner</p>		
<p>3. Caspar David Friedrich, <i>Wanderer above the Sea of Fog</i></p>		
<p>4. Thomas Cole, <i>View from Mount Holyoke</i></p>		
<p>5. Honoré Daumier <i>Le Wagon de troisième classe</i> (The third-class wagon)</p>		
<p>6. <i>First Steps (after Millet)</i> Vincent Van Gogh</p>		

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Jean-François Millet. *The Gleaners*. 1857. Musée d'Orsay, Paris.



The Fighting Téméraire tugged to her last Berth to be broken, [J.M.W. Turner](#)

TIP- The Temeraire was a famous British warship used in the battles against Napoleon. It is being hauled in by a newly built steamship.



Caspar David Friedrich, *Wanderer above the Sea of Fog*, 38.58 × 29.13 inches, 1818, Oil on canvas, Kunsthalle Hamburg



Thomas Cole, *View from Mount Holyoke, Northampton, Massachusetts, after a Thunderstorm—The Oxbow*, oil on canvas, 1836 (Metropolitan Museum of Art)

TIP- Notice how the land on the right is cultivated and divided for agriculture while the land on the left is natural and untouched.



Honoré Daumier *Le Wagon de troisième classe* (The third-class wagon), 1864.



***First Steps (after Millet)* 1890 (250 Kb); Oil on canvas, 72.4 x 91.2 cm (28 1/2 x 35 7/8 in); The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York**