



## ANALYSIS OF A CULTURAL WORK

Every **work of art** is a **construction** resulting from conscious, creative **choices**. These choices, which create meaning and cohesion, guide the viewer's or reader's gaze.



### What is analysis?

A study conducted with the aim of knowing and distinguishing the various parts of a whole, in order to identify or explain the relationships that link them together (Antidote).



### The steps

The steps involved in the analysis may vary according to the approach chosen (for more details, consult the files on the different approaches). However, one guideline unites the various types of analysis conducted in the different courses of the *Arts, Letters and Communication* program.

### Some concepts to consider

#### Substance

The content of the work, i.e. the themes, ideas, subjects or ideologies it conveys. For example, thematic analysis is primarily concerned with substance.

#### Form

Vehicle for expressing content. The manner and style in which themes, ideas, subjects or ideologies are expressed. Form refers to the choices made by the creator of a work (painting, film, play, book) with regard to the materials, processes or techniques used. For example, aesthetic analysis is primarily concerned with form.

#### Examples of formal characteristics

**Visual Arts** Image composition, colours, lines, etc.

**Literature** Plot development, lexical fields, etc.

**Theatre** Costumes, lighting, music, sets, etc.

**Cinema** Editing, camera movements, camera angles, etc.

#### Analytical angle

The analytical angle seeks to clarify and focus the subject: you ask yourself a question, and the work will answer it. Here are a few examples:

**Visual Arts** Has the meaning of Edward Munch's *The Scream* been distorted in the remakes that have been used in advertising?

**Literature** Did Kerouac's *On The Road* have any influence on Jacques Poulin's *Volkswagen Blues*?

**Cinema** Do the contrasting colors emphasize the psychology of the characters in *Interview with the Vampire*?

#### Analytical approach

Perspective used to examine, interpret and understand a cultural creation. There are many different approaches to analysis: thematic, sociological, aesthetic, etc. These types of analysis aim to decode the implicit or explicit messages present in the work, offering a better understanding of its artistic, social or political significance.



#### Observe

First, listen to, read or observe the work objectively, without passing judgment.



#### Determine

Determine an analytical approach to studying the work. Define the problem.



#### Identify

Identify significant formal and content-related elements (with regard to the analytical approach). Note where they appear in the narrative (timestamp, page, etc.)



#### Interpret

Interpret the results by establishing links between substance and form or between the elements identified.



#### Giving meaning

Giving a global meaning to interpretation.

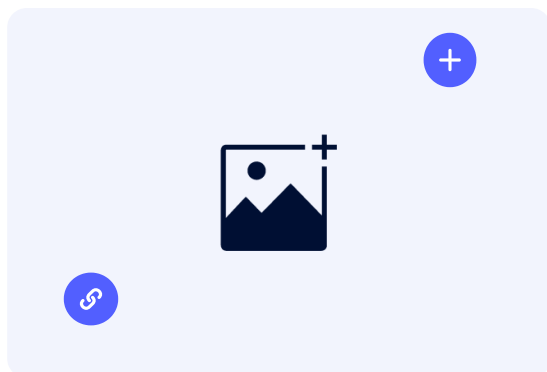


## Got an idea?

### Let the communication flow!

With Genially templates, you can include **visual resources** to wow your audience. You can also highlight a particular **sentence** or **piece of information** so that it sticks in your audience's minds, or even **embed** external content to surprise them: Whatever you like!

Do you need more reasons to create dynamic content? No problem! **90%** of the information we assimilate is received through **sight** and, what's more, we retain **42%** more information when the content **moves**.



- **Generate experiences** with your content.
- It's got the **Wow effect**. Very Wow.
- Make sure your audience **remembers the message**.

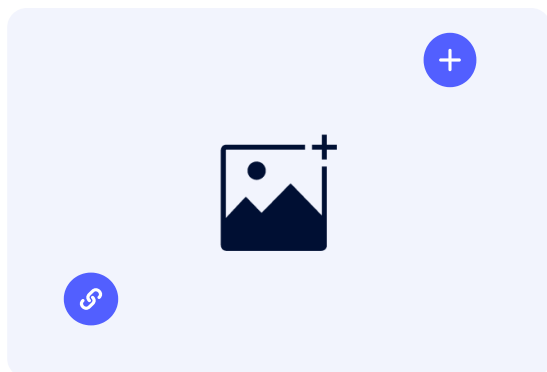


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