

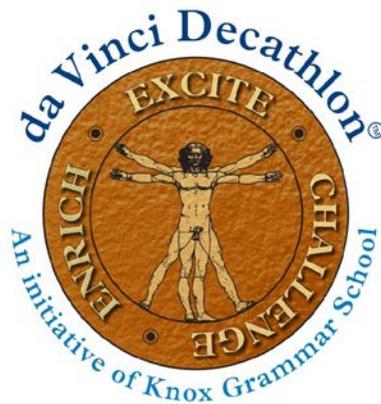


KNOX
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

STATE

DA VINCI DECATHLON 2019

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS
IN YEARS 5 & 6



ART AND POETRY

TEAM NUMBER _____

Total	Rank
/40	

THE IMAGINED WORLD

BACKGROUND

In our lives, we come across many landscapes. These landscapes can be real, such as the landscape of the city or the country, or imagined, such as spiritual places like heaven or mythological places like Atlantis. Artists and poets have special roles in bringing these landscapes to life; often, they like to represent imagined landscapes within real ones to make this happen, using images and words to give the countryside heaven-like qualities and exotic faraway places an Atlantis-like allure.

One of the best demonstrations of this blend of real and imagined landscapes is Romanticism. Most popular in the 18th and 19th centuries, Romantic artists and poets see their landscapes as influential and unpredictable, holding an almost god-like power over the humans living in it. Much of their work emphasises and exaggerates the healing powers of the natural world and how it can restore health and gratitude to humanity. Such work is intensely emotional and personal, conveying the special relationship an individual can have with a landscape. The famous poet William Wordsworth loved the landscape of Tintern Abbey on the Welsh bank of the River Wye:

*I cannot paint
What then I was. The sounding
cataract
Haunted me like a passion: the tall
rock,
The mountain, and the deep and
gloomy wood,
Their colours and their forms, were
then to me
An appetite; a feeling and a love,
That had no need of a remoter charm*



Consider how John Trumbull's 'Romantic Landscape' above demonstrates this. Pay close attention to the use of light blues and greens in the picture, the majestic nature of the landscape, and the sense of calm it brings to the viewer.

THE TASK

The team is challenged to create an original poem and artwork that draws upon the Romantic poets and artists perception of landscapes. The poem must be thematically, symbolically **AND** physically linked to the artwork, depicting how landscapes can be restorative and inspiring. Unlike the Romantics, it does not have to be a natural landscape. You can add a modern twist, provided you emphasise that this landscape can inspire and heal. The poem must also, through its use of language, demonstrate to the viewer a connection with the artwork of the landscape it is coupled with.

Please take note of the following:

- Romanticist artworks and poems are beautiful in their deceptive simplicity – think about how this can influence what you create!
- **Your artwork and poem MUST BE connected physically, thematically and symbolically! This will be a key discriminator!**

- Simple words, when expertly crafted, can often be more powerful than verbose terminology.
- Please include the team number in the work.
- The poem must include figurative language to create evocative imagery.

MATERIALS TO BE PROVIDED

- Four A4 sheets of paper (supplied)

MARKING CRITERIA

MARKING CRITERIA	POEM					ARTWORK					
Original interpretation of the task	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
The CLOSE thematic, symbolic, and physical interconnectedness of the poetry and artwork	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The striking use of words and images to convey the landscape	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The artwork and poem work together cohesively to convey the Romantic notion of the healing power of landscapes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
TOTAL											/40

END OF PAPER