



NUMBER 20, 1949 (ENAMEL ON PAPER LAID DOWN ON MASONITE BY JACKSON POLLACK (1912-56) PRIVATE COLLECTION/JAMES GOODMAN GALLERY, NEW YORK, USA/BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY

Squiggle Art

My class went to the art museum. We looked at a painting by a famous artist named Jackson Pollock. It had squiggles of paint running all over it. It made me smile.

“Anyone could make that painting,” my friend Susie said. Susie always says stuff like that. I didn’t think it would be that easy.

Then I saw a piece of gum stuck to

the painting. I reached out to peel it off.

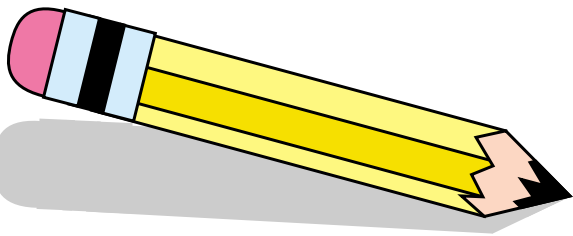
Beep! Beep! An alarm went off. A guard rushed over.

I put up my hands. I shouted, “I’m just trying to clean up the painting!”

The guard smiled. He said, “It’s okay. The gum is part of the painting.”

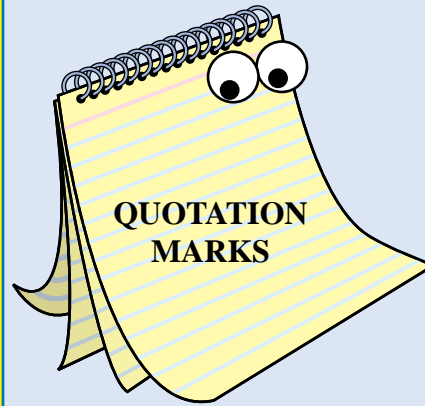
Reader's Response

- 1 Did the narrator (the person telling the story) think gum belonged on a painting? How can you tell?
- 2 What made the alarm go off and the guard come over?
- 3 Do you think it is easy or hard to make a good painting? Why do you think as you do?



Writer's Response

- 1 At the end of the first paragraph, how does the author let readers know how the narrator felt about the painting?
- 2 In the fourth paragraph, what words for sound does the author use? Why does the author do that?



“ If I want to show that someone is speaking, I must use *quotation marks* (“ ”). I put these marks at the

beginning and the end of what the person says. In my story, Susie talks. Can you find what she says? A quick way to find her words is to look for the quotation marks. Susie says, “Anyone could make that painting.”

Look through the rest of the story. Who else speaks? What does each person say? How can you tell? ”

WRITE TIME

⇒ Write a story about a class trip. Tell what people said on the trip. Use quotation marks to show their words.

⇒ Look through a book that has paintings by famous artists. Choose a picture you like. Write a description of it and tell why you like it.

⇒ Find out about Jackson Pollock or another artist. Write a paragraph that tells about his or her life and work as an artist.



Narrative

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Let's Get Together

Read these sentences. Combine each set of two simple sentences to make one stronger sentence.

1. The whale swims. The whale jumps.

2. The whale dives deep into the water. The whale looks for food.

3. The clown smiles at the children. The clown dances for the children.

4. The mailman carries a bag. The mailman carries letters and magazines.
The mailman's bag is big.

