

Modern Art and Human Biology

Modern Art · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Which toxic pigment, commonly used by Fauvist painters like Matisse, is known to cause chronic systemic toxicity, specifically targeting the peripheral nervous system and renal function?

- A) Lead white
- B) Cadmium yellow
- C) Cobalt violet
- D) Scheele's green

2. The Cubist masterpiece 'Les Femmes d'Alger' was influenced by Iberian sculpture; which specific cranial feature is exaggerated in these figures, reflecting the anatomical study of ancient, non-Western artifacts?

- A) Zygomatic arch elongation
- B) Mandibular prognathism
- C) Supraorbital ridge prominence
- D) Occipital bun enlargement

3. Which physiological condition was famously portrayed by Egon Schiele in his self-portraits, characterized by thin, twisted limbs and a focus on skeletal structure, reflecting the artist's obsession with the 'nude' in a post-Darwinian context?

- A) Cachexia
- B) Ectomorphy
- C) Lordosis
- D) Scoliosis

4. The inhalation of aerosolized pigment particles, a technique often used in mid-century kinetic art, is most likely to cause which specific pulmonary condition, independent of chemical toxicity?

- A) Pulmonary fibrosis
- B) Pneumoconiosis
- C) Pleural effusion
- D) Chronic bronchitis

5. In Frida Kahlo's 'The Broken Column,' the artist depicts a surgical corset; which specific spinal injury sustained in her youth forced her to wear this medical device for the remainder of her life?

- A) Lumbar herniation
- B) T12 compression fracture
- C) Cervical whiplash
- D) Thoracolumbar spinal fracture

6. Marcel Duchamp's 'Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2' utilizes a chronophotographic style; which sensory system in the human brain is responsible for processing this type of sequential motion perception?

- A) V1 visual cortex
- B) Superior colliculus
- C) Dorsal stream pathway
- D) Ventrolateral prefrontal cortex

7. Which heavy metal, frequently used in the lead-based paints of the early Modernist period, is scientifically proven to cross the blood-brain barrier and cause 'saturnism' or lead poisoning?

- A) Plumbum
- B) Arsenic
- C) Mercury
- D) Antimony

8. Francis Bacon's portraits often feature distorted facial features; medically, the specific 'screaming' mouth posture he frequently painted resembles the spasmodic contraction of which facial muscle group?

- A) Zygomaticus major
- B) Platysma
- C) Orbicularis oris
- D) Masseter

9. Synthetic polymer paints, which became standard in mid-20th-century Pop Art, can release Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs); which organ is primarily responsible for the biotransformation and detoxification of these absorbed VOCs?

- A) Kidneys
- B) Lungs
- C) Liver
- D) Pancreas

10. Alberto Giacometti's extremely thin, elongated bronze sculptures are often interpreted through the lens of the human body's 'fight or flight' response; which endocrine gland initiates the release of adrenaline that could theoretically cause such physiological tremors?

- A) Adrenal medulla
- B) Pituitary gland
- C) Thyroid
- D) Pineal gland

11. Surrealist artist Salvador Dalí was fascinated by 'paranoiac-critical' visions; the anatomical term 'hypnagogic' refers to which specific state of human consciousness experienced between wakefulness and sleep?

- A) REM state
- B) Alpha-wave transition
- C) Delta-wave deep sleep
- D) Theta-wave onset

12. What is the primary anatomical reason that extended periods of painting in a 'hunched' position, common among Abstract Expressionists working on floor canvases, leads to chronic cervical radiculopathy?

- A) Brachial plexus compression
- B) Cervical disc herniation
- C) Trapezius muscle atrophy
- D) Lordotic curve reversal

13. The use of cobalt salts in the vibrant blues of Modernist landscapes can lead to cardiomyopathy when systemic exposure is chronic; which specific protein in the heart muscle is typically affected?

- A) Troponin
- B) Actin
- C) Myosin
- D) Titin

14. In the context of Modernist performance art, which specific anatomical structure is most vulnerable to repetitive strain injury during prolonged periods of static, anti-gravity posing?

- A) Synovial bursa
- B) Articular cartilage
- C) Intervertebral disc
- D) Tendon sheath

15. The 'Dada' movement's focus on the irrational often mirrored studies on the human limbic system; which part of this system is primarily responsible for the processing of 'disgust,' a common theme in Dadaist art?

- A) Amygdala
- B) Hippocampus
- C) Insular cortex
- D) Hypothalamus