

3. Name and date this sculpture. How does it differ from earlier sculpture in this culture? Support your explanation by comparing it to one specific earlier sculpture. (10 minutes)

This sculpture is known as the Kritios boy and was sculpted around the Early Classical period of Greece (500 AD-600 AD). The Kritios boy is a significant contribution to art because of its contrapposto stance. Sculptures from the Archaic period were stiff, frontal, with fists at the side and one foot in front of the other. The Kritios boy shows a more natural stance. For example, the Kouros had the silly archaic smile and the extremely unnatural pose. Kouros also has stylized hair and his body appeared unproportionate. In contrast, the Kritios boy has more natural hair and his body is more idealized than that of the Kouros. The Kritios Boy also takes a more natural pose, with the slight swivel of his hips, the curving of the spine and the turn of the head. Also, the Kritios Boy does not have the Archaic smile that the Kouros had but rather ^{he} shows ~~an~~ a facial expression which depicts an intense and deep thinking.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

3. Name and date this sculpture. How does it differ from earlier sculpture in this culture? Support your explanation by comparing it to one specific earlier sculpture. (10 minutes)

This sculpture is from the classical Greek time period. The man is depicted very idealistically, as can be seen in his defined chest and ideal proportions. It differs from the earlier Greek statues, such as the kouros figures, that depicted men more conventionally with patterned hair and sharp V-shaped lines. The classical Greek approach to sculpture is more fluid and ideal; focussed less on conventions, but on how the ideal man should be. The figure also appears to have some contrapposto as seen in the weight shift of his position, with one leg slightly in front of the other - this was a new characteristic to the time period, as the kouros figure is standing very erect and rigidly.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

AP[®] ART HISTORY

2006 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 3

Overview

This question asked students to name and date the *Kritios Boy* (circa 480 B.C.E.), to explain how the sculpture differed from earlier sculptures in the same tradition, and to support their explanation by comparing it to one other earlier sculpture. The first part of the question was a simple identification of a major work of art. The intent was to have students discuss the *Kritios Boy* as a significant transitional work compared to earlier *kouroi* sculptures. Thus, knowledge of the name (as a specific *kouros*) and date (as around 480 B.C.E. or as described by some major historical events or movements of the time) were important in order to contextualize the piece. Students were expected to use knowledge actively to explain visual change.

Sample: 3A

Score: 4

This essay correctly names the statue as *Kritios Boy*, provides the exact date of 480–450 B.C.E., and states that it is from the Early Classical period. The essay discusses how *Kritios Boy* differs from the earlier *kouroi* and mentions the *Kroisos of Anavysos* specifically. Salient points in the discussion include the replacement of the Archaic smile with a “calm and serene” facial expression, the more natural proportions, and the *contrapposto* stance. The student concludes that all of this results in a work that is less rigid and frontal than the earlier work. While the discussion is rather brief, it is to the point and includes all the relevant information.

Sample: 3B

Score: 3

The student correctly names and dates the work as *Kritios Boy* from the Early Classical period of Greece, although the period is identified as “500–600 AD.” The essay discusses the development of the *contrapposto* stance and the “more natural” appearance of the sculpture as compared to earlier *kouroi*. While the earlier *kouroi* are discussed in general, no specific work is mentioned, so the essay earned a 3.

Sample: 3C

Score: 2

This essay does not specifically name the statue and gives only “Classical Greek” for the date. It accurately describes some of the most relevant changes from the earlier *kouroi*, namely the *contrapposto* pose and the less conventional appearance. But the essay is mostly descriptive and makes no attempt at analysis.