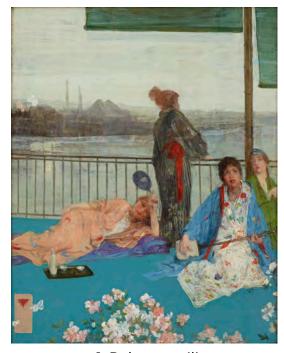
Lesson 1.6 Study Guide Look and Think about Whistler's *The Balcony* 



Name
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On the left is James McNeill Whistler's oil painting, Variations in Flesh Colour and Green: The Balcony, 1864-70.

Look carefully at a large image of this painting for a few minutes before answering the following questions.

- A Balcony railing
- **B** Thames River
- **C** Cherry blossoms
- **D** Industrial city landscape
- **E** Horizon line
- **F** Foggy London sky and atmosphere
- **H** Japanese fan

## **Observe and Analyze**

- 1. Write the corresponding letter on each of these objects in the painting:
  - **G** Kimono (long, wide-sleeved Japanese robe worn with an obi tied around the waist.)
  - I Shamisen (a Japanese threestringed music instrument)
  - **J** Sake set (for serving a Japanese alcoholic beverage made from rice)

- **K** Butterflies
- **L** Artist's chop mark similar to a Japanese seal

- 2. From his title, we know Whistler was experimenting with color. Locate different flesh tones in this painting. Where has Whistler repeated various shades of pink and flesh tones?
- 3. Which main lines tie the composition to the edge of the picture frame?
- 4. Describe the brush strokes on the kimonos and background landscape.
- 5. What part of this painting is most abstract, with the fewest recognizable details?

**Interpret** – 6. What happened in Japan that enabled Whistler and European artists to see Japanese art?