Answer Sheet


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

Observe and Analyze

1. Write the corresponding letter on each of these objects in the painting:

   A Balcony railing *Model leans against it as it cuts across middle of picture plane*

   B Thames River *Behind railing*

   C Cherry blossoms *lower edge*

   D Industrial city *landscape above river in background*

   E Horizon line *just above the cityscape in the background.*

   F Foggy London sky and atmosphere *above and around the city and smokestacks, point out the smoke on the left*

   H Japanese fan *held by reclining woman*

   G Kimono (long, wide-sleeved Japanese robe worn with an obi tied around the waist.) *All these women are in loose robes, but the one standing wears a kimono with an obi*

   I Shamisen (a Japanese three-stringed music instrument) *Woman in white print and blue robe holds the shamisen*

   J Sake set (for serving a Japanese alcoholic beverage made from rice) *near the reclining woman’s knees*

   K Butterflies *lower left corner and near the middle edge on the left*

   L Artist’s chop mark, similar to a Japanese seal *lower left corner*
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? Faces, arms, hands, flowers, chop mark background

3. Which main lines tie the composition to the edge of the picture frame? Vertical pole on left and the horizontal balcony line

4. Describe the brushstrokes on the kimonos and background landscape. The brushstrokes vary but many are visible, long ribbon-like, and sketchy.

5. What part of this painting is most abstract, with the fewest recognizable details? The cityscape in the background hazy fog

Interpret – 6. What happened in Japan that enabled Whistler and other European artists to see Japanese art? Japan opened up to trade with western nations. As Japanese prints and porcelain appeared in European cities, European artists were fascinated with its exotic articles and art compositions.