

Name _____

Assignment: Write a Critical Analysis of “*Falling Rocket*”

- **View** James McNeill Whistler’s painting *Nocturne in Black and Gold, the Falling Rocket*.
- **Read** the essay Whistler v. Ruskin: Aesthetics Trial.
- **Write** a description and analysis of the painting. Include information about color, composition, subject, and style (abstract, realism). Write neatly using understandable and appropriate grammar.
- **Critique** the painting. Explain why you do or do not consider this painting to be fine art. Include Whistler’s, John Ruskin’s, or other art critics’ opinion to support your argument.

Assessment of Critical Analysis of “*Falling Rocket*”

	Excellent	All Right, O.K.	Needs Improvement	Unacceptable
Description	Appropriately described Whistler’s painting. Accurately described color, arrangement (composition), subject, and style (abstract, realism).	Described Whistler’s painting and its color, arrangement (composition), subject, style (abstract, realism), but part of description is inaccurate or vague.	Attempted to describe Whistler’s painting. Did not accurately describe color, arrangement (composition), subject, or style. The description is inaccurate or vague.	Did not describe Whistler’s painting. Did not describe color, arrangement (composition), subject, or style.
Writing	Composition was very well written and understandable.	Composition was well written and for the most part was understandable.	Composition was difficult to understand due to poor grammar or spelling.	Composition was poorly written, not understandable.
Critique	Logical understandable argument for or against considering <i>Falling Rocket</i> as fine art is given. Whistler’s, Ruskin’s, or other art critic’s opinion is included to support personal opinion.	Argument for or against considering <i>Falling Rocket</i> as fine art is given, but may not be well stated. Whistler’s, Ruskin’s, or other art critic’s opinion is included to support personal opinion.	Argument for or against considering <i>Falling Rocket</i> as fine art is attempted. May be difficult to understand. Whistler’s, John Ruskin’s, or other art critic’s opinion is included.	Argument for or against considering <i>Falling Rocket</i> as fine art is not stated. Whistler’s, Ruskin’s, or other art critic’s opinion is not included.