

ENGELSK

Selfportrait. Between the Clock and the Bed

Exercises

a) Write down all the words you think of when you see the picture.

b) Describe the picture.

First you should describe what you see, then you should try to make an interpretation.

- How does the man look?
- What about his body-language?
- What other elements of the picture would you see as important?
- What symbols may be found?
- What about the way the picture is painted?

You should try to give reasons for your answer.

c) Make a short dialogue between you and the man. What would you like to ask him about?

d) Write a letter to Edvard Munch asking him why he has painted this picture.

e) Why is the man standing between a clock and a bed? Write a short essay to this painting by Edvard Munch.

f) Find more information about Edvard Munch in the internet. How would you present him to an Englishman?

www.munch.museum.no

www.nasjonalmuseet.no

g) Make a portrait of yourself or describe it the way you want it to be. Where and how do you want to be portrayed?
Present the portrait to another pupil in the class. Discuss the effect of the picture.

h) Discuss what Edvard Munch may have meant by the following quotations:

- *My art gave meaning to my life*
- *We do not die. The world is dying from us.*
- *I already experienced death when I was born. What is left is the real birth, which is called death.*
- *Death is the beginning of life – to a new crystallization*
(Crystallization means in this connection “to form new crystals, to bring to permanent and definite form”.)

The following expressions may be useful:

I think...

I don't think so...

I don't know...

However,...

What you say may be right, but...

No, that can't be right, because...

I think you are right, because...

I think you are wrong, because...

On the one hand..., on the other hand...

As far as I know...

Exactly!

Precisely!

i) Make a role-play where one of the pupils is Edvard Munch.

j) Body-language.

Two pupils work together. One is expressing a certain attitude. The other one is describing what he/she is doing, and also what it expresses.

e.g.

You are smiling. You are happy.

k) Picture + music

One may say that Edvard Grieg (1843 – 1907) and Claude Debussy (1862 – 1918) also in a way paint pictures in their music. What do you see in *Morgenstemning / Morning mood* and *Claire de lune / Moonshine*? If you should pick out one of these music-pieces to accompany the picture by Munch, what would that be? What might be the meaning of Morning / Moon in this connection?