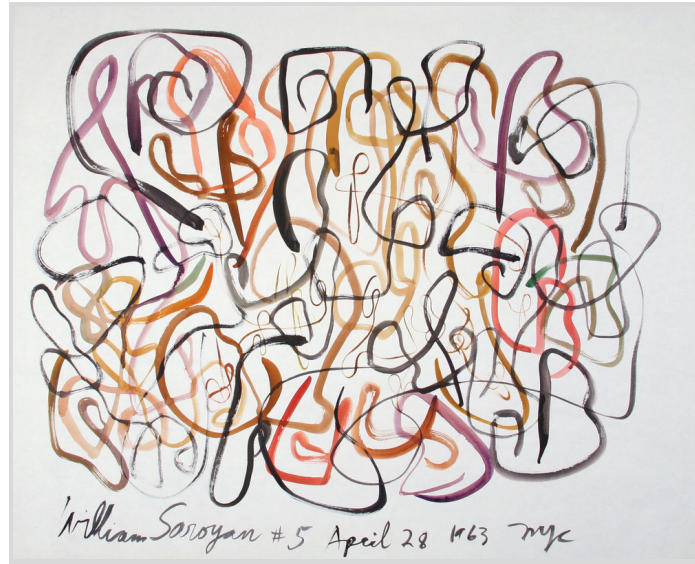


1st-5th GRADE WRITING PROMPT

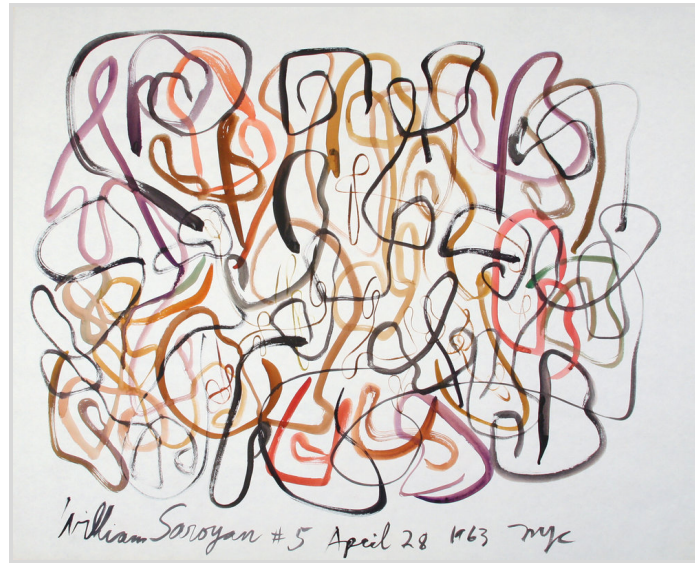


William Saroyan said,

“One picture is worth a thousand words. Yes, but only if you look at the picture and say or think the thousand words.”

1. Look at the piece of art by William Saroyan. What do you think, feel, or imagine when you look at his painting?
 - Does his painting make you feel happy, sad, or worried? Or do you have some other feelings?
 - Do you think he was painting his idea of a person, animal or machine?
 - Do you think he was painting a place, like a mountain, city, or far-away planet?
2. Write a paragraph that explains what you think, feel, or imagine when you look at the painting.
 - Describe what it is in the picture that makes you feel or think this way.
 - What colors did the artist use?
 - What shapes did the artist use?
 - Is it busy, or simple?
 - Describe some of these traits to explain your opinion.

6th-8th GRADE WRITING PROMPT



William Saroyan said,

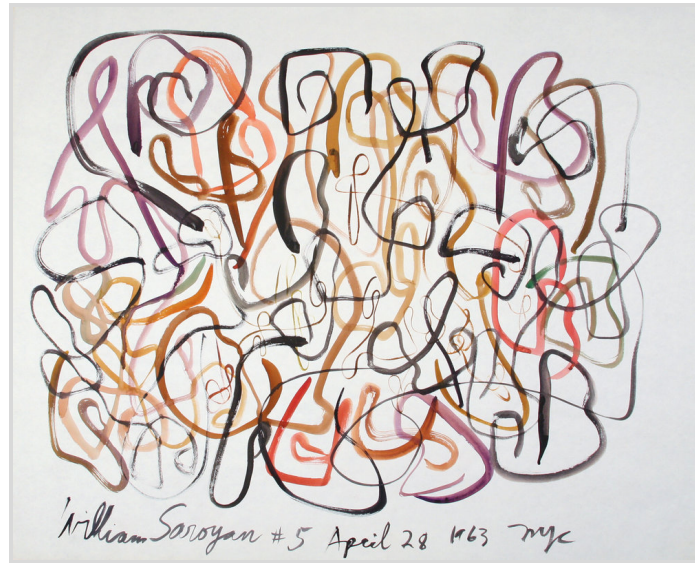
“One picture is worth a thousand words. Yes, but only if you look at the picture and say or think the thousand words.”

When you look at this picture, what story do you think Saroyan was trying to tell? Write a narrative of 500 words telling the story of this painting.

- Use your imagination and be as descriptive as possible.
- Is it the story of an adventure?
- Is it the story of someone's struggle or dream?
- Is it a story of friendship or of the future?
- Explain what details in the picture make you think of this.

This is your opportunity to give 500 words to Saroyan's original work.

9th-12th GRADE WRITING PROMPT



William Saroyan said,

“One picture is worth a thousand words. Yes, but only if you look at the picture and say or think the thousand words.”

Saroyan was a prolific artist whose works leave much for the viewer to decide or interpret. The beauty of art is that each viewer’s response is unique, and although the meaning one finds in a piece of art is deeply personal, it can also reveal a more universal truth.

Contemplate the selected work by Saroyan, then write a narrative of 1000 words describing what you believe to be the message of the piece. Does it reflect a struggle, obstacle or hardship we encounter in society? Does it suggest the joy and optimism of achievement? Does it offer a problem, or a solution to a problem? Does it describe the feelings we associate with a personal relationship? Does it simply challenge what society defines as “normal”, “beautiful” or “artistic”? If so, was Saroyan intentionally challenging these norms?

Use your imagination to give your 1000 words to Saroyan’s work of art.