

October 2019 Modernism – Postmodernism Essay Questions

1. There were many causes for Modernism from the 18th-century onwards. What are some of the key aspects of Modernism in the arts and what do you think were its most significant causes?
2. What makes Cubism such an important movement in the arts? Your answer should discuss several artworks in their historical context.
3. The Russian Revolution gave rise to many different experimental art forms which went on to influence much other art. Discuss at least three art works which you feel make particularly significant contributions to the development of Modernist art.
4. Institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art in New York, Curators such as Alfred H. Barr, and schematic ‘maps’ of art, architecture and culture play a significant rôle in transmitting and consolidating a certain kind of ‘structure’ to complex phenomena such as the arts. Discuss how some of these institutions, curators and plans work and whether they create positive and/or negative effects.