



Reading 348

You are going to read the description of a painting. Compare the subject, the composition, the techniques used, the style, the impression it creates and the overall message of the painting with those of the painting described in the listening task.

*Write **5 sentences**. Write **35-50 words** in each sentence.*

***Do not quote the text:** a copied sequence of **4 words and more** is considered a quotation.*

This shockingly realistic image of a young boy holding out a severed head is one of Caravaggio's most striking paintings. It depicts the climax of the biblical encounter between David, an Israelite shepherd boy, and Goliath, a Philistine giant. David killed Goliath with a slingshot head with the giant's own sword.

The dramatic use of light and shadow in the painting is startling. Caravaggio used a technique known as chiaroscuro (meaning "light/dark" in Italian), in which bright light forms a powerful contrast with deep shadow, creating a theatrical effect. David appears to have stepped forward into a spotlight, which also illuminates one side of Goliath's face and glints on the blade of the sword. The brightly lit areas draw attention to the figures' faces, emphasizing the human aspect of the biblical tale.

David is likely to be modeled on a youth from the streets of Naples, as Caravaggio preferred to depict characters who looked like real, solid people in his religious paintings. The head of Goliath is a self-portrait. Caravaggio was seeking a papal pardon after killing a man in a fight, and the painting has been interpreted as the artist offering up his painted head rather than his real one. It is said that as Caravaggio's life became increasingly troubled, his paintings grew darker, and this is one of the last he ever made.

Script of the listening task:

The man in the centre with the opulent cloak and fantastic turban is Belshazzar, King of Babylon. His father, Nebuchadnezzar, had looted precious vessels of gold and silver from the temple at Jerusalem. Belshazzar decides that he wants to have a great feast and uses these sacred vessels as tablewares. God did not look kindly upon this and the divine hand of God appears in the background and writes in this fabulous aura of light a message that essentially says, 'God has judged you, found you wanting, and is going to destroy you'. And, in fact, the very night that this message appeared, Belshazzar was killed.

The sounds that come to me when I look at this painting are absolute silence. It's like the eye of a hurricane in a way, but you can sense that some of the vessels have just clattered to the table. You can almost hear that ringing sound of a dropped metal object. But I sense that there is an intake of breath, a gasp echoing throughout this painting.

Key

Критерии оценивания

Всего 15 баллов за 5 предложений

1 предложение = 3 балла:

- 1 б содержание: сходства и различия картин по некоторым указанным аспектам — the subject, the composition, the techniques used, the style, the impression it creates and the overall message of the painting
- 1 б грамматика
- 1 б лексика

Вычет 1 балл, если не уложились в рамки 35-50 слов.

Вычет 3 балла, если предложение содержит полную цитату из текста (от 4 слов подряд — уже цитата).

Вычет 3 балла, если нет сопоставления печатного текста с текстом из аудирования.