Exploring Narratives in Art with the National Museum of Mexican Art

Visual arts can be used to help students work on critical thinking skills and writing. The National Museum of Mexican Art invites you to use Visual Thinking Strategies to work with young people, grades 7 -12, on analyzing and interpreting select works from its Nuestras Historias exhibition. These strategies will help students engage with art, connecting what they see to their own lives and the world around them, and can be used as writing prompts to develop narratives and create stories.

Use the Following Visual Thinking Strategy questions to begin the conversation:

What's going on in this picture? What do you see that makes you say that? What more can you find?

Listen to their responses and ask follow-up questions to help them expand on their initial thoughts. We have provided worksheets to help youth record their ideas and develop them into stories or essays.

Oscar Moya (b.1956), Blue Collar / Cuello azul, 2000, acrylic on canvas, 50" x 56", National Museum of Mexican Art Permanent Collection, 2006.92, Gift of the artist in memory of Salima Rivera-Moya.
Explanatory Text:

Use the following worksheet to gather your thoughts and ideas.

**Observe, Think and Write a Story:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What’s going on in the painting?</th>
<th>What do you see that makes you say that?</th>
<th>What more can you find?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXPLORING NARRATIVES IN ART WITH THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART

Use the following worksheet to gather your thoughts and ideas.

OBSERVE, THINK AND WRITE A STORY:

Use your thoughts to create a story. What characters or situations does the image inspire for you?

Use your thoughts to write about a political or social issue. Do you think this image is a commentary on things in your own life?
EXPLORING NARRATIVES IN ART WITH THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART

Use this worksheet to get started with your writing.
EXPLORING NARRATIVES IN ART WITH THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART

Is there a person in your life that you can connect to “Blue Neck (Cuello azul), by Oscar Moya? Draw your own masterpiece.