



L.I – I CAN MAKE COMPARISONS BETWEEN PAINTINGS BY THE SAME ARTIST.

SUCCESS CRITERIA:

- KNOW BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT AN ARTIST
- CAN NOTE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN WORKS FROM THE SAME ARTIST
- CAN COMPARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WORKS FROM THE SAME ARTIST

JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT

BORN DECEMBER 22, 1960 – DIED AUGUST 12, 1988



JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT

JEAN- MICHEL BASQUIAT WAS BORN IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK ON DECEMBER 22ND IN 1960. HIS MOTHER WAS ORIGINALLY FROM PUERTO RICO, WHICH IS LOCATED BETWEEN THE CARIBBEAN SEA AND THE NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN AND HIS FATHER WAS FROM HAITI, ALSO LOCATED IN THE SAME AREA.

His mother encouraged his interest in art from an early age and when his parents separated, he moved to Puerto Rico with his father for two years (1974-1976). His mother wasn't well when he was younger and as a result, Basquiat left high school and his home at the age of 17.



JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT

While living on the streets, Basquiat joined a group of graffiti artists and painted anonymous messages on walls and subway trains in New York City.

Do we know of any anonymous artists that leave messages in graffiti?

Basquiat was naming himself 'SAMO' at the time and sold sweatshirts and postcards with his graffiti on it.

In the late 1970's, this work began to get noticed and so did Basquiat. He became mainstream at the age of 20, when expressionist painting was becoming popular again.

Expressionism refers to art in which the image of reality is biased (one-sided) in order to make it expressive of the artist's inner feelings or ideas (which means it communicates the artist's feelings).

Basquiat's first formal public exhibition (work in an art gallery or work displayed publicly) was in 1980 ('The Times Square Show')



"Overrun" - 1985

JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT

Basquiat didn't have any formal training. He created highly expressionistic work that mixed graffiti and signs. He often drew self portraits addressing his personal issues and his paintings often referred to African-American historical figures, such as jazz musicians, sports personalities and writers. He mixed themes from African, Caribbean, Aztec and Hispanic cultures. He also mixed 'high art' references (beautiful images) with images from popular culture, especially cartoons.

In 1983, he became friends with the Pop artist *Andy Warhol* (who was one of our artists of the month!!) and the two began to collaborate (work together) occasionally.



JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT



- How would you describe this painting?
- What do you notice about the colours?
- What art materials do you think he used?
- Why do you think Basquiat painted this picture?

"Untitled" (skull) - 1982

JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT

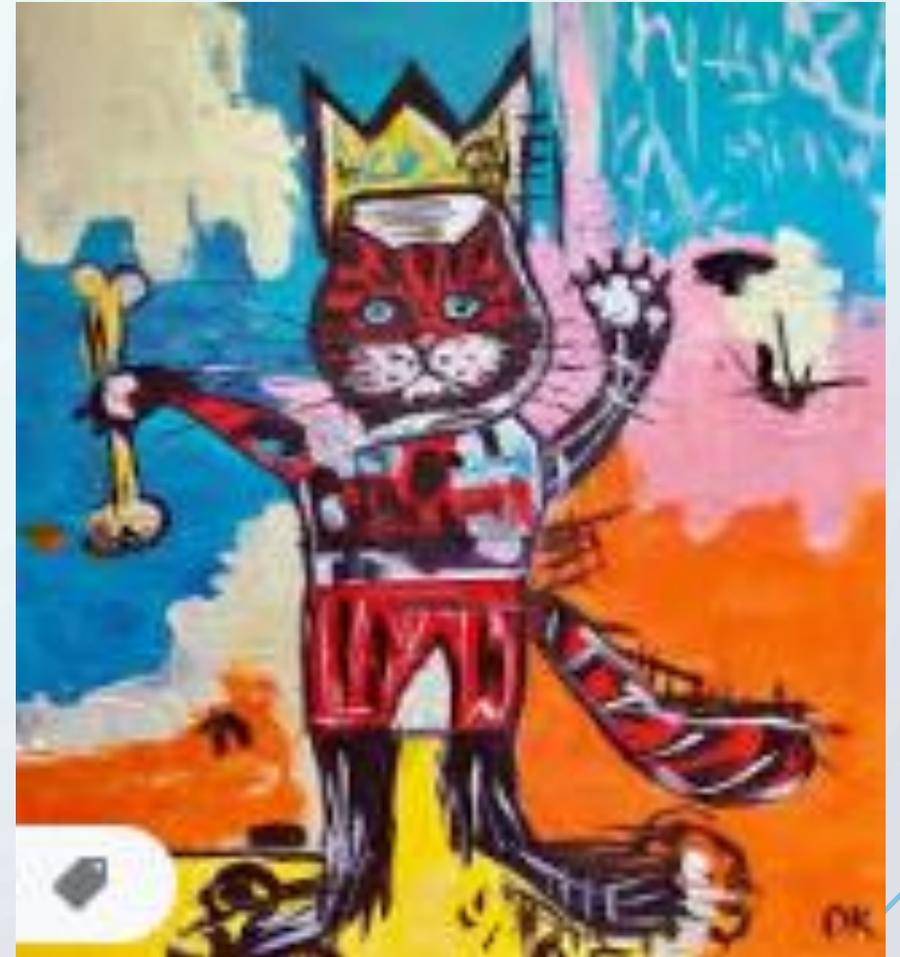


“Philistines” 1982

- How would you describe this painting?
- What do you notice about the colours?
- What art materials do you think he used?
- Why do you think Basquiat painted this picture?

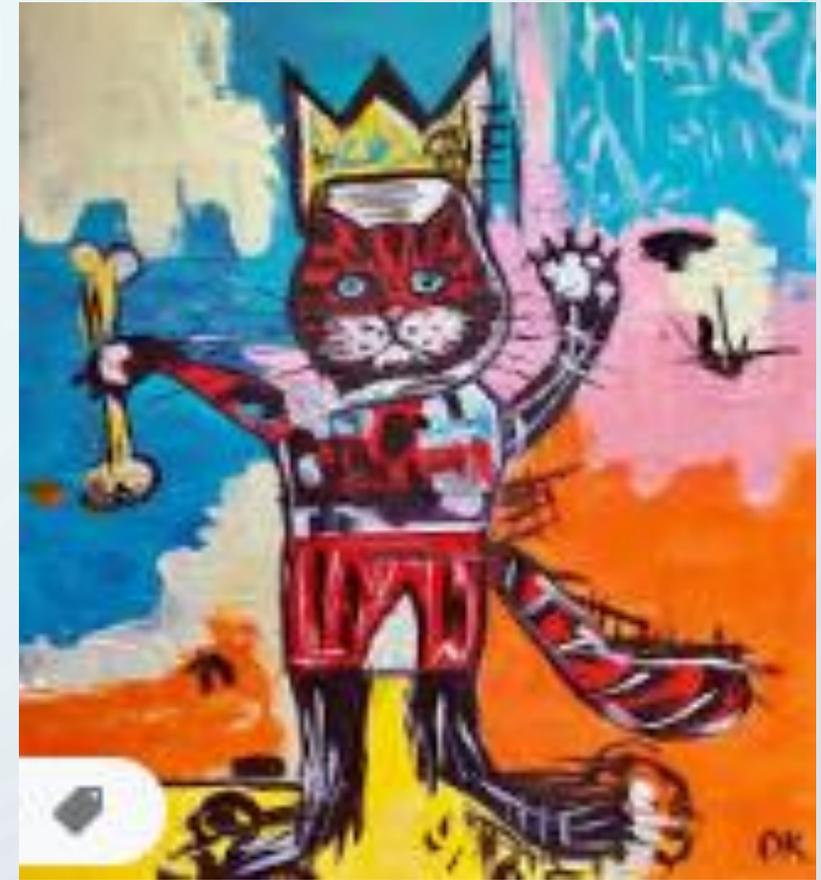
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- How would you describe this painting?
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“Red Cat in a Crown” - 1982

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Making comparisons

- What similarities can you see between the three paintings?
- What differences can you see?
- Which one do you prefer and why?