

Q2

"Technological advances have transformed the practices of artists."

Technology has changed the way art is produced, the way it is conducted and ~~too~~ it has brought about the question of what ~~it~~ is Art.

Art was initially a form of remembrance, a record of a historical moment or religious event. There was no way to record events other than writing. But during the classical periods not a lot of people could read. So the next best thing was painting. A picture tells a thousand words. There was a demand for people that could paint ideally in a perfect manner giving the human body its wonder that if had

strived to gain. Artists were masters of replication and understand the fundamentals of human anatomy and a sound understanding of composition. During these periods artists like Michelangelo became well known as he mastered the classical Greek art style.

The invention of the printing press caused some alarm for artists as now pictures and drawings could be copied in an instant. At this time literacy has increased and art began to move away from a means of recordance and towards a more personal and emotional angle. The final nail in the coffin for classical artworks that were used for recordance was the invention of the camera.

No longer was there a need for a man to sit for hours on end to paint a picture. With a single push of a button a picture was painted. Years of training to paint realistically and ^{precisely} exact went down the drain.

Painters began to explore more openly not just with paint but with the new invention of the camera. Artists began to ~~to~~ adopt unusual painting techniques. Jackson Pollock and his Abstract expressionism still baffles the untrained ~~eye~~ today.

New technologies led to new materials being used. The industrial revolution saw masses of production and invention. New subjects were quickly found in the hot steamy factories through out the

world. Better transport methods allowed for artists to readily explore the globe coordinating their ideas and influences.

New materials allowed for bigger and more extravagant buildings and sculptures. Materials like plastics became common features of artworks. Artists were opened up to this whole new world of materials that were readily available.

The conceptual art scene took to new technologies very readily, making their concepts more intriguing and often harder to understand.

With the advances in electronics and computers artists have begun to create graphics and movies. Artists can now produce an artwork on a TV instead

of canvas. Films can be watched with sounds that make the viewer more interactive with the art work. Stelarc has embraced new electronic technologies in his ~~use~~ performance art very boldly. His use of mechanical limbs that can be manipulated by the movement of other limbs seem to shock rather than appeal to people. His performances often involve the use of laser light and loud sounds produced from speakers.

As art began to move further away from painting and classical styles people began to pick up cameras and take photos as artwork. Initially many people didn't accept photography as an artwork. It was seen as being too easy, but

eventually it took on its own style and was accepted. People like Tracey Moffatt who ~~are~~ are well known ~~are~~ for her racial based works are widely accepted now.

Technological advances have also lead to different production methods of artworks. Artists like Roy Lichtenstein who is famous for his pop art, pay people to produce his cartoon works with a printing press. Similar style is found in Andy Warhol who doesn't paint his work, but uses a printing press to obtain the effects he wants.

The invention of the airbrush saw a new mechanical way to apply paint to a surface. Airbrushes are widely used by body shop artists who paint bump and

brilliant designs on car bodies and motor bike fuel tanks.

With advances in communication there is no longer a delay between the trends found in Paris and when they arrive on US or Australian shores. The art world is much more closer and in communication than it ever was, allowing for transformation of ideas and styles.

Technology has changed the way viewers look at art and the practices of artists. It has paved a new road for many art groups including ~~the~~ conceptual, Pop art and performance art. New materials and inventions has allowed the artist to see new horizons, make new political statements and create an emotion within the viewer that may not have been

reached during the classical period. The post Modernism world helped propel the acceptance of new technologies, yet new and modern technologies were often the impetus for many artist ideas and views.