Emphasis and Text

Art can be used to tell a story. Sometimes, artists find that the best way to tell their story is to include text with their visual and symbolic message.

**EMPHASIS**

You can tell when an artist is emphasizing something because they use different techniques to draw attention to it. A way to try and find what the artist was trying to emphasize, is to write down what you first notice about the work.

Do you notice a pattern?

What is simple and what is more detailed?

There are different elements to look at when finding what is emphasized in a work of art.

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*Find a piece of art that has text in it, and do a sketch of the first part of the art that caught your eye, or that pops out.*
Now take a closer look at the text.

Does the text stand out to you? If it doesn’t, what does stand out?

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What color is the text? Why do you think the artist choose this color.

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What size is it? How does the size of the text compared to the rest of the art piece?

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Are certain words grouped together? What does this look like?

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What words would you use to describe the way the letters and words look? Are they loopy, geometric, do they look like a person or a machine made them?

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Do you understand the language the words are in? If so what does it say? If you do not understand the language, take a guess at what the artist might be trying to say, there are no wrong answers to guesses!

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