**Compare 2 artists (1 historical (2000s beforehand) and 1 contemporary) through the Interpretative Framework of Personal, Structural and Cultural lenses.**

**Scaffolding your art analysis response**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Step 1: Sentence responding to the question**

This should be concise and to the point. Make sure that whatever you’re saying is answering/responding to the question being asked and try to avoid being too complex!

**Step 2: Context about artists and artworks**

First of all you’ll have to **introduce each of your artists and their artworks and the lenses you will be analysing them through.** You may then want to add some brief context – even if it’s just one or two descriptors, such as mentioning that one artist is Australian, or that both are women. Whatever context you do mention should be relevant to or play a role in your thesis or main ideas.

*Example: “Del Kathryn Barton is one such artist, who uses symbolism and decorative patterns to convey concepts of femininity and imagination in her works “That’s when I was another tree 2” and “She appeared as a lover might”. On the other hand, artists such as Barbara Kruger, who uses boldly coloured text in her works Untitled (Pro-life for the unborn/Pro-death for the born) and Untitled (Your body is a battleground), show how reflecting reality can be pivotal to an artwork.”*

**Step 3: Signpost the main ideas of the essay**

Signposting is the art of telling the reader what you’re going to talk about without actually starting to talk about it. This means you’ll want to briefly name or mention the key ideas or arguments you’ll focus on in your essay, but don’t go into any detail yet! That’s for your body paragraphs.

*Example: “These two artists despite their differences in style and subject matter both show a respect for the real and imagined in their artworks and practice. Hence, they reveal through their works that art may reflect reality, but it expresses imagination as well.”*

**PARAGRAPH 1**

**Step 1: Introduce the first idea you signposted**

You want to use your strongest idea first, so pick the one you know the best or can argue the best and explain it here in a little more detail.

**Step 2: Introduce Artist 1 and the artwork you’re analysing**

Bring in your first artist by giving some more **context** on them as is relevant to the idea you’re writing about. **This may include their nationality, when they lived, their social background, etc.** You’ve already named the artwork you plan to analyse for this paragraph so briefly describe it for the audience. You don’t need to get too in-depth in your descriptions, but make sure the reader knows enough for the rest of your paragraph to make sense.

Example for personal lens:

*“Barton’s own role in society as a woman has influenced both her experiences of reality and her choice to create imaginative, expressive works about it. The image shows a nude girl holding a cat and looking upward, with ribbon wrapped around her arms and hair.”*

**Step 3: Analyse the artwork using the principles and elements of design and the interpretative framework and how the artist reflects the idea**

You need to make sure you know and understand the artwork and how it relates to or proves the ideas you’re trying to argue. Analysing how the work interacts with the elements and principles of design. Brush up on analysing the principles of design, the frames, and conceptual framework of art!

Example of cultural lens:

“The use of thin, jagged line work in the outlines and details of the image create a sense of sharpness and fragility, reminiscent of the edges of broken glass. Meanwhile the inclusion of the ribbons tied to and around the naked figure acts as a **symbol for being trapped; trapped by society, trapped by reality and trapped by the expectations of young women in modern times.** The cat also acts as a symbol, often tied to the idea of female manipulation, however the dark pink of it paws contrasted with its white claws highlight the way it cuts into the girl’s hand, yet another symbol of physical entrapment.”

**PARAGRAPH 2**

**Step 1: Reiterate the first idea you signposted**

Restate the idea from your last paragraph but this time **focus on how it links to your second artist.** You may want to throw in some simple **comparative languag**e as well to begin the contrasting between your two artists, such as “on the other hand”, “in contrast to”, etc.

**Step 2: Introduce Artist 2 and the artwork you’re analysing**

Do this in the same way as you did in paragraph 1, making sure to point out any relevant context that may be relevant for your analysis. Also make sure to comment on any important similarities or differences between this artist/artwork and the first artist/artwork.

**Step 3: Analyse the artwork using the principles and elements of design, the frames and the conceptual framework**

Just as you did in paragraph 1 you now need to analyse the artwork. Remember you’re analysing comparatively, so **comment on whether this artwork is similar or different to the first artwork** you looked at, or if it has both different and similar elements.*\*Try to avoid analysing all the artworks in the same way, so if you focused on colour symbolism last time, try analysing the use of line or the materials used this time round.*

**PARAGRAPH 3\***

 **Compare and contrast Artist 1 with how Artist 2 reflects these ideas, and vice versa**

*Sentence starters such as “Similar to Artist 1, Artist 2 has explored XX through a similar cultural lens…”*

**CONCLUSION - Sum up the idea and link back to your brief**

Remind readers of what they’ve read and how it was responding to the question posed.

*Example: “While Barton and Kruger are two contrasting artists with vastly different art styles and practices, looking at both demonstrates that reality and imagination may both be explored by any artist. Though each may appear more skewed towards either reality or imagination, their works prove that both ideas play an important role in their artmaking.”*