Object Based Learning is a mode of education, which involves looking at authentic or replica objects in the learning environment. For Art, this mode of learning allows an art object (or concept) to be examined from various subject-specific (art history and theory) and cross-disciplinary areas (politics, psychology, sociology, economics, etc.) to build a broader knowledge base as well as develop observational skills and other transferable and practical skills.

Object Based Art Analysis is what we call the particular way we analyze artworks in this class.

You will begin with a particular work of art-- example: *Campbell's Soup Cans*, by Andy Warhol

1. Identify-- name or title, artist if known, time period made, size, media (this comes from research) In the case of Warhol's work, it is important to note whether you are discussing one of his paintings or a silkscreen. It also matters the size. Is it big or small? It was made in 1962. The date matters as we look at context—what else is happening at the time that may have influenced this piece.

2. Describe-- before inferring or researching any meaning, simply look very carefully and write what you see. i.e. this piece is composed of 32 individual, small paintings of different kinds of Campbell's Soup. They are painted to look exactly like the soup can label. They are lined up in a grid and while they look similar, each had a different name.

3. Art Context-- How does the object fit into the history of art. In this case, we would say the piece fits in the Pop Art Context. Then talk about what Pop is, some history from art and what Pop is responding to. (this comes from valid research)

4. Social and/or Political Context-- This object can be discussed within the context of things happening in the U.S. after WWII with regards to consumerism and mass production. You might mention the results of advertising and the rise of TV and magazines, supported by consumer advertising. Warhol's work, also emphasizes the egalitarian nature of foods like canned soup, and Coca Cola, in that all people get the same product regardless of their socio-economic background. (this comes from valid research)

5. Meaning—Deduce from previous comments and from research.