

Lesson Title: **Representations: Comparing and Contrasting**
Mundos de Mestizaje and Diego Rivera's Murals at the
Palacio Nacional

Grade Level: 9-12

COMPARING AND CONTRASTING MURALS

STANDARDS AND BENCHMARKS:

Fine Arts: 5A, B, 6A, B

MATERIALS/RESOURCES

- Computer Access
- Online Supplemental Resources: Art Analysis Sheet - an Art Journal can be a substitute
- Chart Paper

VOCABULARY

Mundos
Mestizaje
Sagrada Tierra
Diego Rivera

OBJECTIVE

Comparing and contrasting two murals:

- Students view and analyze Diego Rivera's murals at the *Palacio Nacional* and *Mundos de Mestizaje*.
- Students consider how history and politics are portrayed and represented in each mural.
- Students answer a set of analytical questions about both murals.

PROCEDURE

Viewing Phase

1. Students begin by visiting the school computer lab.
2. Explain to the students they will be comparing and contrasting two murals one by Frederico Vigil, *Mundos de Mestizaje* and Diego Rivera's murals in the *Palacio Nacional* in Mexico City.
3. Students connect to the internet and locate information about Diego Rivera and his murals located at the *Palacio Nacional* in Mexico City: <http://www.bluffton.edu/~sullivanm/mexico/mexicocity/rivera/muralsintro.html>
4. Students read about Diego Rivera and his work, observing images of his murals for 5-10 minutes.
5. Explain to students that in 1984, Frederico Vigil the artist of *Mundos de Mestizaje* studied fresco with fresco masters, the late Lucienne Block and Stephen Pope Dimitroff in Gualala, California, who were understudies of Diego Rivera.

ANALYSIS

1. Using the accompanying Art Analysis Sheet, or art journals, students respond to the following questions:
 - a. Provide a visual description the *History of Mexico* from Diego Rivera's murals.
 - b. Provide a visual description of the New Mexico section in *Mundos de Mestizaje*.

- c. How does each artist depict the history of these two places in the artwork?
 - d. Describe the use of color, repetition, size, and placement.
 - e. Analyze the difference between various history themes in each mural (immigration, homeland *Sagrada Tierra*, language, colonization, religion).
 - f. What are the similarities in the murals? What are the differences? How does the depiction of history themes in each of the art pieces exemplify the similarities and differences?
2. In small groups the students discuss their answers and document elements of their discussion on large chart paper. The chart paper is displayed on the wall in the classroom.
 3. Students use sticky notes to make comments and pose questions on the different group posters.
 4. Teacher facilitates the on-going discussion.

ASSESSMENT

Online Supplemental Resources: Rubric for the Art Analysis Rubric

COMMON CORE

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.7
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.9
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.4
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.5
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.6

Art Analysis Sheet

(Responses can also be written in Art Journal)

Question/Prompt	Response
Provide a visual description of <i>History of Mexico</i> from Diego Rivera's mural.	
Provide a visual description of New Mexico section of the <i>Mundos de Mestizaje</i> mural.	
How does the artist depict the history of these two places in the artwork?	
Describe the use of color, repetition, size, and placement in each mural.	
Analyze the difference between various history themes in each mural (immigration, homeland, language, colonization, religion).	
Describe the similarities and differences in the murals. How do the images in each mural exemplify the similarities and differences?	

Connecting Concepts with Visual Representations Scoring Rubric

Question/Prompt	2 Good Responses are critical, with rich analysis, and thick description	1 Average Responses provide some description and analysis	0 Needs Work Responses are list-like and lack detail and/or critical thought and reflection
Provide a visual description of <i>History of Mexico</i> from Diego Rivera's mural.			
Provide a visual description of New Mexico section of the <i>Mundos de Mestizaje</i> mural.			
How does the artist depict the history of these two places in the artwork?			
Describe the use of color, repetition, size, and placement in each mural.			
Analyze the difference between various history themes in each mural (immigration, homeland, language, colonization, religion).			
Describe the similarities and differences in the murals. How do the images in each mural exemplify the similarities and differences?			

Total Points: _____